

Top IRS Boss Invokes Fifth

Jeremy W. Peters
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WASHINGTON - The Internal Revenue Service official who first disclosed that the agency had targeted conservative groups, and in doing so ignited a controversy that has ensnared the White House, denied Wednesday that she had ever provided false in-



Lois Lerner, director of Exempt Organizations for the IRS, is sworn in on Capitol Hill in Washington, May 22, 2013.
(D. Angerer/New York Times)

formation to Congress. She then invoked her Fifth Amendment right not to testify.

As Lois Lerner appeared under subpoena before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, she sternly told her questioners that allegations that she had misled Congress in previous testimony were false.

"I have not done anything wrong. I have not broken any laws," said Lerner, who leads the IRS's division on tax-exempt organizations. "I have not violated any IRS rules and regulations, and I have not provided false information to this or any other congressional committee."

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In Broad Daylight



Police and forensic officers near the scene of an attack where two men with butcher knives hacked another to death Wednesday and one then went on video to explain the crime near Woolwich military barracks in London Wednesday, May, 22, 2013.

(AP Photo/Alastair Grant)

Brutal attack in London blamed on radical Islam

C. VINOGRAD
PAISLEY DODDS
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Two men with butcher knives hacked another to death Wednesday near a London military barracks and one then went on video to explain the crime — shouting political statements, gesturing with bloodied hands and waving a meat cleaver. Soon after, arriving police shot and wounded the unidentified assailants and took them into custody. The brutal daylight attack galvanized this city and raised fears that terrorism had returned to London. Authorities did not identify the victim by name, but French President Francois

Hollande referred to him as a "soldier" at a news conference in Paris with visiting British Prime Minister David Cameron. Cameron would not confirm that, but British media reported that the victim was wearing a shirt in support of troops and Britain's Ministry of Defense said it was investigating whether a U.K. soldier was involved. Calling it "an appalling murder," Cameron said there were "strong indications" it was an act of terrorism, and two other officials said there were signs the attack was motivated by radical Islam.

The Cabinet's emergency committee was immediately convened and security was stepped up at

army barracks across London. Cameron cut short his Paris trip to return to London and his office said he would chair another session Thursday. The incident unfolded Wednesday afternoon when officers responded to reports of an assault just a few blocks from the Royal Artillery Barracks in the neighborhood of Woolwich.

Images from the scene showed a blue car that appeared to have been used in the attack, its hood crushed and rammed into a signpost on a sidewalk that was smeared with blood. A number of weapons — including butchers' knives, a machete and a meat cleaver — were

strewn on the street. While there were moments of chaos — one local primary school went into lockdown when a teacher saw the victim's body — the scene was striking in its normalcy. Pedestrians milled about with grocery bags and shopping carts as a body lay motionless in the street — and the attackers remained on the scene, wielding long knives.

One British broadcaster ran video taken on a cellphone of what appeared to be one of the attackers, his hands covered in blood, making political statements about "an eye for an eye" as a body lay behind him.

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Kerry: US, allies ready to step up aid to rebels

**BASSEM MROUE
BRADLEY KLAPPER
Associated Press**

AMMAN, Jordan (AP)—The U.S. and several key allies looked again Wednesday for a strategy to end Syria's civil war, their united efforts unable at the moment to stem the Assad regime's military gains and Washington still unwilling to join those providing the rebels with lethal military aid.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry allowed that President Barack Obama won't send American troops to Syria. But he made clear that more aid to the rebels would be coming if the regime refuses to cooperate with an international effort — to be put together in June in Geneva — to form a transitional government.

"In the event that we can't find that way forward, in the event that the Assad regime is unwilling to negotiate Geneva in good faith, we will also talk about our continued support, growing support for opposition in order to permit them to continue to fight for the

freedom of their country," Kerry told a news conference with Jordanian Foreign Minister Nasser Judeh. The two men later joined nine of their colleagues from Europe and the Arab world in the Jordanian capital of Amman, alongside Syrian opposition leaders George Sabra and Gen. Salim Idris to plot a path forward. There, the U.S. and its partners sought to convince Syria's rebels of the need to participate in any peace effort.

"The only alternative to a negotiated settlement," Kerry told the larger meeting, "is more killing, is more innocent civilian deaths, more chaos, more instability in part of the world that has already suffered too much."

"That path would lead to a lot more families being torn apart, to a lot more refugees crossing the borders," he said. "It is a path that would lead, potentially, to the splitting apart of Syria itself."

Wednesday's meeting came after several weeks



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry join others members for a group photo in Amman, Jordan, Wednesday, May 22, 2013. The U.S. and several key allies looked again Wednesday for a strategy to end Syria's civil war, their united efforts unable at the moment to stem the Assad regime's military gains and Washington still unwilling to join those providing the rebels with lethal military aid.
(AP Photo/Jim Young)

of military gains by the Assad regime, including the reopening of a key southern highway to Jordan and a push into a strategic rebel-held western town over the weekend. Such successes will likely harden Assad's position in

any peace talks. The Syrian leader has said that he will not step down as a result of transition talks, and that Syria's political future must be determined in elections. More than 70,000 Syrians have been killed since March 2011, according to

the United Nations. A Jordanian-based Western diplomat, who insisted on anonymity because he is not authorized to speak publicly on the matter, said the Assad regime was proving more resilient than expected. He said his government was concluding the rebels might not be able to defeat it without greater and more direct assistance.

Some of that new resilience in the Syrian regime comes from help from Iran and the militant Hezbollah movement.

Kerry warned those regime allies to stop providing assistance to Assad, saying such activity "perpetuates the regime's campaign of terror against its own people." He didn't spell out any specific American threats of action, but said Obama was keeping all options on the table.

"We have to hope that Bashar Assad and his regime will understand the meaning of that and the Iranians and others will understand the meaning of that," Kerry said.

To that end, an administration official in Washington said the White House would soon notify Congress about an expanded package of non-lethal assistance to the Syrian rebels. □

US admits killing 4 Americans in drone strikes

**CHARLIE SAVAGE
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WASHINGTON — One day before President Barack Obama is due to deliver a major speech on national security, his administration on Wednesday formally acknowledged that the United States had killed four U.S. citizens in drone strikes in Yemen and Pakistan.

In a letter to congressional leaders obtained by The New York Times, Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. disclosed that the administration had deliberately killed Anwar al-Awlaki, a radical Muslim cleric who was killed in a drone strike in September 2011 in Yemen. The U.S. responsibility for al-Awlaki's death has been widely reported, but the administration had until now refused to confirm or deny it.

The letter also said that the United States had killed

three other Americans: Samir Khan, who was killed in the same strike; al-Awlaki's son Abdulrahman al-

wrote. While rumors of Mohammed's death had appeared in local news



Attorney General Eric Holder gestures while testifying on Capitol Hill in Washington. Four American citizens have been killed in drone strikes since 2009, Attorney General Eric Holder said Wednesday, May 22, 2013. The administration released the information the day before President Barack Obama is scheduled to make a major speech on national security.
(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

Awlaki, who was also killed in Yemen; and Jude Mohammed, who was killed in a strike in Pakistan.

"These individuals were not specifically targeted by the United States," Holder

reports in Raleigh, N.C., where he lived, his death had not been confirmed by the U.S. government until Wednesday.

According to former acquaintances of Moham-

med in North Carolina, he appears to have been killed in a November 2011 drone strike in South Waziristan, in Pakistan's tribal area. Mohammed's wife, whom he had met and married in Pakistan, subsequently called his mother in North Carolina to tell her of his death, the friends say. Holder, in a speech at Northwestern University Law School last year, laid out the administration's basic legal thinking that U.S. citizens who are deemed to be operational terrorists, who pose an "imminent threat of violent attack" and whose capture is infeasible may be targeted. That abstract legal thinking — including an elastic definition of what counts as "imminent" — was further laid out in an unclassified white paper provided to Congress last year, which was leaked earlier this year. □

Key House chairman:

Senate immigration bill 'repeats mistakes of the past'

ERICA WERNER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP)—A key House committee chairman on Wednesday sharply criticized a wide-ranging U.S. immigration bill just passed by a Senate committee, underscoring the

President Barack Obama's top domestic priorities. But Goodlatte's statement shows that whatever happens when the full Senate takes up the measure next month, it will face tough sledding in the Republican-led House. Goodlatte's cri-

tique was echoed by other Republicans on his committee. "I cannot find any deadline by which the border needs to be secure" under the legislation, complained Rep. Lamar Smith, who represents border state Texas.

Their comments came the day after the Senate Judiciary Committee voted 13 to 5 to advance the measure to the full Senate, with three Republicans joining the Democratic majority. The bill would aim to enact new border controls and enforcement mechanisms in the workplace, allow tens of thousands of workers into the country legally for high- and low-skilled jobs, and create a 13-year path to citizenship for the 11 million people already here illegally.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, a Democrat, pledged Wednesday to bring the measure to the Senate floor in June after Congress returns from a holiday recess at the end of May. Republican Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, said he would support a vote to begin debate on the measure, although he said he remained undecided about supporting it.

"I'm undecided about the bill, but I'm not undecided about the problem," McConnell said on Fox News

Channel. "The border is unsecure and we need to fix it. So I've not decided yet whether this is the bill to do that, but we've got a serious problem along the border."

Meanwhile there were new setbacks for a bipartisan House group that has been working to finalize its own measure along the lines of the Senate bill.

The group of eight lawmakers, four Democrats and four Republicans, has been promising for months to release the legislation but has encountered numerous difficulties as it tries to get a deal that could get through the Republican-controlled House while also satisfying Democratic concerns. Late last week, after reports that talks had stalled, lawmakers insisted they had an "agreement in principle."

But on Wednesday lawmakers and aides said the group had new problems arising from a dispute over how to handle health care for immigrants here illegally. □



House Judiciary Committee Chairman Rep. Bob Goodlatte, R-Va., left, and Rep. George Holding, R-N.C., right, listen to testimony on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, May 22, 2013, during the committee's hearing on immigration reform.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

difficulties ahead as the politically volatile measure moves forward in a divided Congress. Separately, a bipartisan House group that has been working behind the scenes to draft its own immigration measure encountered fresh difficulties. House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte, a Republican, argued that the bill passed by the Senate Judiciary Committee on a bipartisan vote Tuesday "falls far short" of what is needed to end the problem of illegal immigration, and is unlikely to secure the Mexican border.

"While I commend the Senate for their continuing efforts to tackle the extremely difficult task of reforming our broken system, I must observe that S. 744 repeats many of the mistakes of the past," Goodlatte said at a hearing of his committee on the legislation. "We have serious concerns." Overhaul of the U.S. immigration system is one of

IRS official denies misleading Congress

Continued from front

After she refused to say anything further, despite attempts by Rep. Darrell Issa of California, the committee's chairman, to persuade her otherwise, Issa, a Republican, dismissed her and her attorney from the hearing. That upset some Republicans, who said that Lerner should not be let go so quickly. "You don't get to tell your side of the story and then not be subjected to cross examination," Rep. Trey Gowdy of South Carolina challenged her. "She ought to stand here and answer our questions." Issa made a second attempt to convince her to change her mind. But when she declined, he dismissed her again. Lerner then exited the hearing room with her attorney to a whirl of camera shutters.

On May 10, when Lerner first apologized for the targeting, she told reporters that she had learned of the improprieties from news

media reports in early 2012. But a Treasury inspector general's audit indicated that she knew far earlier than that and tried to

broaden the scope of the targeting efforts to include liberal as well as conservative groups. Members of both parties used the hearing to offer unsparing criticism of the IRS and the other agency officials who sat before them, saying that revelations that the agency had singled out certain politically minded groups were inexcusable. Also appearing before the committee were Neal S. Wolin, the deputy secretary of the Treasury Department; J. Russell George, the Treasury inspector general for tax administration; and Douglas Shulman, a former commissioner of the IRS. "The power to tax is the power to destroy," Issa said.

Rep. Elijah E. Cummings of Maryland, the senior Democrat on the committee, also scolded the agency. □



Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-Md.), left, and Committee Chairman Rep. Darrell Issa (R-Calif.), second from right, during a House Oversight and Government Reform hearing examining the Internal Revenue Service's targeting of conservative groups, on Capitol Hill in Washington, May 22, 2013.

(Drew Angerer/The New York Times)

Q&A On The News

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Q: What's the origin of the gun the Boston Marathon bombers used in their shootout with police?

Don Haller, Douglasville, Ga.

A: The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) is trying to trace the origin of the 9mm Ruger handgun that law enforcement officials say Tamerlan Tsarnaev used in the gunfight with police before he was killed on April 19. The gun's serial number was erased, and agents partly raised the digits, according to The Washington Post.

Q: With the escape of the three women in Cleveland, what has happened to Sean Hornbeck?

-- Martha Hunt, Hoschton, Ga.

A: Hornbeck, who was kidnapped in 2002 and rescued in 2007, is 21 years old and has a full-time job at a metal fabricating company in Pevely, Mo. He lives with his parents, but pays his own phone bills, a car payment and insurance, Hornbeck said earlier this month when interviewed about the escape and rescue of Amanda Berry, Gina DeJesus and Michelle Knight after being held for 10 years in a Cleveland house.

"I'd like to go back to college and finish my criminal law degree," he told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on May 8. "I'm just kind of waiting for the right moment for everything to line up." Michael Devlin kidnapped Hornbeck on Oct. 6, 2002, and held him captive in his suburban St. Louis home until police found Hornbeck and 13-year-old William Benjamin Ownby on Jan. 12, 2007. Hornbeck was 11 when he was kidnapped and 15 when he was rescued.

"To me, four years felt like it was an eternity," Hornbeck said. "So I ... can't tell you how they must have felt. I haven't gone through what they did."

Q: It has been reported that Holloman Air Force Base in Alamogordo, N.M., has been given to the United Nations and units from the German and Russian military. Please confirm or give the correct information.

-- Ardon Smith, Fayetteville, Ga.

A: The German Air Force Training Center has been based at Holloman Air Force Base since 1992, and German air force pilots and air crews have been training in the U.S. since the late 1950s. German crews train at Holloman for several reasons, according to Holloman's website, including "great flying weather and suitable air space." There are about 500 German military personnel and civilians at Holloman, with plans to add 300, German air force Col. Heinz-Josef Ferkinghoff told the El Paso (Texas) Times in March. The German air force command for the U.S. and Canada is relocating from Fort Bliss, Texas, to Holloman in September. The German air force had a presence at Fort Bliss for more than 50 years.

Q: How many victims of the Boston Marathon bombing had limbs amputated?

-- Judy Garner, Douglasville, Ga.

A: At least 14 victims of the April 15 bombing had limbs amputated as of late last month. Of those, at least two had two limbs amputated, according to media reports. In the days after the attack, doctors at Boston Medical Center performed five amputations. There were four at Massachusetts General Hospital, three at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, and one each at Brigham & Women's Hospital and Boston Children's Hospital. Other patients remained under observation by doctors, who hoped surgeries would be able to save limbs of those victims, according to The Boston Globe. There are about 400 trauma-related amputations a year in the U.S., according to the Major Extremity Trauma Research Consortium at Johns Hopkins University, USA Today reported. Most amputations in the U.S. -- about 150,000 a year -- are related to nerve disease, it reported. □

In Boston bomb probe:

Man killed after attacking FBI agent

KYLE HIGHTOWER

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Florida (AP)

— A Chechen immigrant who was being questioned about his ties to one of the Boston Marathon bombing suspects was shot to death by authorities early Wednesday after he lunged at an FBI agent with a knife, officials said. Ibragim Todashev, a 27-year-old mixed martial arts fighter, was gunned down at his Orlando home during a meeting with the agent and two Massachusetts state troopers, authorities said. The agent was taken to a hospital with injuries that were not life-threatening.

The FBI gave no details on why they were interested in Todashev except to say that he was being questioned as part of the Boston investigation. But some of his former roommates said that Todashev knew one of the Boston bombing suspects, Tamerlan Tsarnaev, from mixed martial arts fighting in Boston and that the FBI was asking about him.

Public records show Todashev lived in Watertown, Massachusetts, just outside Boston, last year.

Tamerlan Tsarnaev, an aspiring boxer, was killed in a shootout with police days after the April 15 bombings. His younger brother, Dzhokhar, survived and is charged with carrying out the attack that killed three people and wounded more than 260.

Investigators have been trying to establish the scope of the plot. In addition, authorities in Massachusetts said they would investigate whether Tamerlan Tsarnaev had any connection to an unsolved 2011 slaying in the Boston suburb of Waltham, where three men were found dead in an apartment, their throats slit and marijuana sprinkled over their bodies. One of the victims was a boxer and a friend of Tsarnaev's.

Todashev had lived on and off with other Chechens in

the Orlando suburb of Kissimmee and had moved to Orlando more recently, friends said.

"He's a regular guy, nothing wrong," Saeed Dunkaev said.

Muslin Chapkhanov, another former roommate, said Todashev knew the older Tsarnaev brother. Todashev "was living in Boston and I think he trained with him," Chapkhanov said. Former roommate

Two law enforcement officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release details of the investigation, said Todashev came at the FBI agent with a knife before he was shot. An FBI team was dispatched from Washington to review the shooting, a standard step in such cases.

Todashev was arrested earlier this month on a



Ibragim Todashev, a man who may have had ties to one of the Boston Marathon bombing suspects, in an undated handout photo. Todashev was shot and killed on May 22, 2013 in Orlando, Fla., after allegedly attacking an FBI agent and a Massachusetts state policeman with a knife as they questioned him about his connection to the alleged bombers, according to a senior law enforcement official. (OCCD via The New York Times)

Khusen Taramov said the FBI was asking questions about a conversation Todashev had with the elder bombing suspect a month before the Boston Marathon attack.

The Tsarnaev brothers have roots in the turbulent Russian regions of Dagestan and Chechnya, which have become recruiting grounds for Islamic extremists. Investigators have said the brothers carried out the Boston bombing in retaliation for the U.S. wars in Muslim Iraq and Afghanistan.

charge of aggravated battery after getting into a fight over a parking spot with two men — a father and son — at an Orlando shopping mall. The son was hospitalized with a split lip and several teeth knocked out, according to a sheriff's report. Todashev claimed self-defense.

"Also by his own admission Todashev was recently a former mixed martial arts fighter," the arresting deputy said in his report. "This skill puts his fighting ability way above that of a normal person." □

Jury in Arias trial adjourns stuck on impasse

BRIAN SKOLOFF
JOSH HOFFNER

Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — Jurors in the murder trial of a U.S. woman told the judge Wednesday they were unable to reach a unanimous verdict on whether the convicted murderer should be sentenced to life in prison or death for killing her one-time boyfriend. The judge instructed them to continue deliberations and try to work through their differences in the case that has captivated many Americans.

The jury reported its impasse after only about two and a half hours of deliberations that began Tuesday afternoon.

The same jury of eight men

and four women convicted Jodi Arias of first-degree murder two weeks ago. Arias stabbed and slashed Travis Alexander about 30 times, shot him in the forehead and slit his throat in what authorities said was a jealous rage. Arias claimed it was self-defense.

Under Arizona law, a hung jury in the death penalty phase of a trial requires a new jury to be seated to decide the punishment. If the second jury cannot reach a unanimous decision, the judge would then sentence Arias to spend her entire life in prison or be eligible for release after 25 years.

If the current jury deadlocks, the prosecutor could decide to take the death

penalty off the table. If that happens, the judge would determine whether Arias

spends her entire life in prison or is eligible for release after 25 years, said former



Jodi Arias stands as the jury enters the courtroom on Wednesday, May 22, 2013 during the penalty phase of her murder trial at Maricopa County Superior Court in Phoenix. Jodi Arias was convicted of first-degree murder in the stabbing and shooting to death of Travis Alexander.

(AP Photo/Rob Schumacher, Pool)

Maricopa County Attorney Rick Romley.

The judge cannot sentence Arias to death.

Earlier Wednesday, jurors were summoned to the courtroom for a clarification of their instructions.

Judge Sherry Stephens had already explained that the jury's decision, either life or death, would be final and wasn't just a recommendation. But she failed to clarify that a life sentence could mean Arias would be eligible for release after 25 years or spend her remaining days behind bars, and that that decision would be up to the judge.

About an hour later, the jury informed the court it was unable to reach a decision. □

Despite protests, Chicago to close 49 schools

STEVEN YACCINO

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CHICAGO - After an emotional public schools meeting, officials in the third-largest district in the country voted Wednesday to close 49 public schools that they said were not being fully used.

The decision, passed unanimously by the Chicago Board of Education, came after weeks of contentious public hearings that brought more than 34,000 people out to oppose the school consolidation plan at dozens of hearings across the city.

The move, which singled out schools that district officials said were half empty after years of population loss - but that opponents argued unfairly singled out low-income minority communities - makes up the largest group of city schools to be closed at once in re-

cent memory.

"The greatest challenge facing our school system right now is that tens of thousands of children every year are trapped in underutilized schools and under-resourced schools," said Barbara Byrd-Bennett, the chief executive of Chicago Public Schools, who had to pause her remarks more than once when protesters began shouting. She later added, "We cannot maintain a system that cannot be sustained and does not benefit the children."

Chicago now has 145,000 fewer school-age children than it had more than a decade ago, according to district data, and the district had already closed about 100 schools since 2001.

In March, the Chicago Public Schools identified 53 more elementary schools

that it planned to shutter, expecting to save about \$500 million over 10 years in part to reduce a \$1 billion deficit.

The plan drew outrage from many parents in Chicago's

South Side and West Side. At protests across the city, opponents raised safety concerns about children having to walk farther, possibly crossing gang lines, to their new schools.

At the meeting Wednesday, Byrd-Bennett removed four schools from her original recommended closing list, plus a fifth school she suggested should not be closed until next year. □

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New York:

Weiner declares candidacy for mayor via video

MICHAEL BARBARO

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NEW YORK - Anthony D. Weiner, once a rising star of New York politics whose career cratered over revelations of his sexually explicit life online, announced an improbable bid Wednesday for the job he has long coveted: mayor.

After a rocky re-emergence into public life over the past few weeks, marked by circuslike scenes of tabloid photographers chasing him onto the subway, Weiner opted to declare his candidacy from the safe remove of a video.

The two-minute video was posted online overnight, apparently prematurely, and then announced by Weiner in a 5 a.m. email. It makes an oblique and glancing reference to the scandal that prompted him to resign from Congress; Weiner asks voters for "a second chance" but does not apologize for his conduct.

"Look, I made some big mistakes, and I know I let a lot of people down," he says. "But I've also learned some tough lessons."

Opening with soft piano music and footage of Weiner and his wife at home feeding their newborn son, the video suggests Weiner is a changed man, now busy raising a family. It quickly pivots to show Weiner expressing concern about affordable housing, education and public safety.

His candidacy, fueled by a \$5 million war chest and a determination to resurrect his public standing, prom-

ises to immediately disrupt a wide-open Democratic primary race populated by several lesser-known candidates.

But it comes with heavy baggage, starting with the deep ambivalence of voters to whom Weiner lied two years ago, when he indignantly, and falsely, denied that he had sent an Internet image of himself in

"I don't care who enters the race," Christine C. Quinn, the front-runner in the field, said Wednesday. "Why should I talk about anyone but myself?"

But Sal Albanese, a mayoral candidate from Brooklyn, offered an early jab, dismissing Weiner as obsessed with the limelight. "He loves the cameras," he said. "I know how he

equate schools, overregulated neighborhood businesses, and a paucity of "good jobs with benefits."

"The very people that put everything they had into this city are getting priced right out of it," he says. "But it doesn't have to be that way."

Although his tenure in Congress has often been derided as unproductive, in the



Anthony Weiner with his wife Huma Abedin, in a video where he declares his candidacy for New York City mayor, in an undated handout image. Weiner, once a rising star of New York politics whose career cratered over revelations of his sexually explicit life online, announced his candidacy for New York City mayor on May 22, 2013 through the video online.

(Handout via The New York Times)

his underwear to a college student in Seattle.

Weiner, 48, eventually admitted to a secret practice of befriending young female admirers over the Internet and engaging in intimate sexual banter with them, sometimes sending them lewd self-portraits taken with his BlackBerry.

His Democratic rivals, exasperated by weeks of speculation about his entry into the race, offered him seemingly halfhearted, at times grudging, welcome.

works. He is addicted. It's a malady."

Weiner's skeletal campaign seemed to struggle with the logistics of posting the video. Even after it was published, many viewers still saw outdated content from an old congressional campaign on Weiner's website and Facebook page.

In the new campaign video, Weiner describes himself as a champion of the city's middle class, and decries rising rents, inad-

equity. The video features multiple reminders of Weiner's family - an important strategy if he is to reassure voters made uneasy by his online behavior. □

House takes up Republican bill on XL pipeline

MATTHEW DALY

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Republicans pushed a proposal Wednesday to bypass the president to speed approval of the 1,700-mile (2,735-kilometer) Keystone XL pipeline, which would transport oil from Canada to Texas. Democrats criticized the plan as a blatant attempt to allow a foreign company to avoid environmental review.

As debate opened, Republicans said the measure was needed to ensure the long-delayed pipeline is built.

"This is the most studied pipeline in the history of mankind," said Rep. Lee Terry, a Nebraska Republican and the bill's sponsor.

"When is enough enough?" added Rep. Jeff Denham, a Republican. "Five years? Six years? Ten years?"

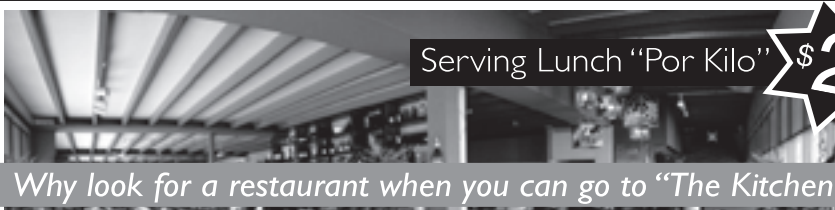
But Rep. Raul Grijalva, a Democrat, called the bill a "reckless attempt to avoid environmental review." The bill would deem the project approved without a presidential permit, as required under current law, and with no further environmental review. The legislation also would limit legal challenges to the project.

The White House says President Barack Obama opposes the bill because it would "circumvent long-standing and proven processes" by removing a requirement for a presidential permit.

The \$7 billion pipeline, first proposed by Calgary-based TransCanada in September 2008, would carry oil extracted from tar sands in western Canada to refineries along the Texas Gulf Coast. □

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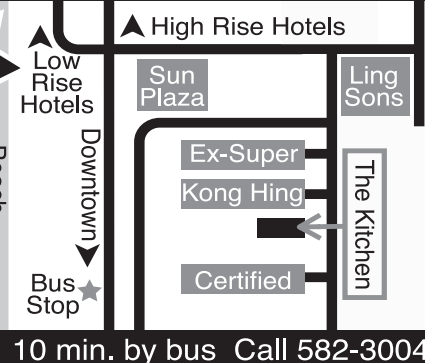


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West Point Military Academy: Sergeant accused of secretly filming female cadets

THOM SHANKER

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WASHINGTON - A sergeant first class on the staff of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point faces charges for allegedly videotaping female cadets without their consent, sometimes when they were in the shower, according to Army

documents as a staff adviser "responsible for the health, welfare and discipline" of a company of 125 cadets. The person in the position is expected to "assist each cadet in balancing and integrating the requirements of physical, military, academic and

and welfare of our cadets at the Military Academy at West Point - as well as all soldiers throughout our Army," Gen. John F. Campbell, the Army vice chief of staff, said Wednesday. "Once notified of the violation, a full investigation was launched, followed by swift action to correct the problem. Our cadets must be confident that issues such as these are handled quickly and decisively, and that our system will hold those responsible accountable." The Army made no announcement of the charges against McClendon, but it provided details after The New York Times learned of the inquiry from several current and former members of the West Point

community who said they were alarmed by the allegations and wanted to learn of the academy's plans to investigate and prevent future violations. If proved, the violation of privacy and trust alleged in the filming of female cadets could have a significant negative impact on whether the Army is seen as an inviting career for young women. George Wright, an Army spokesman, said the service and the academy would "rebuild trust through our response." He said the Army was committed to "providing the full range of support to those whose privacy was violated," as well as "keeping them updated on the case."

"The Army will ensure the military justice system works through to its proper conclusion," Wright said. Some details of the alleged violations remain unclear. Officials said some images appeared to have been taken in the showers, while others were taken at different locations, perhaps through windows. And complicating the inquiry, according to officials, was that some images may have been taken consensually. According to military service records, McClendon joined the Army in 1990 and trained as a combat engineer. He deployed to Iraq from 2004 to 2005 and from 2007 to 2009, and was awarded a Bronze Star. □



Cadets at a graduation ceremony at the West Point military academy in West Point, N.Y. A West Point staff member, Sgt. First Class Michael McClendon, faces charges for allegedly videotaping female cadets without their consent, sometimes when they were in the shower, according to Army officials.

(Luke Sharrett/The New York Times)

officials. The Army is contacting a dozen women to alert them that their privacy may have been violated and to offer support or counseling as required, officials said. The suspect, Sgt. Michael McClendon, faces charges under four articles of the Uniform Code of Military Justice for indecent acts, dereliction in the performance of duty, cruelty and maltreatment, and actions prejudicial to good order and discipline. McClendon, who has been assigned to the school since 2009, was transferred to Fort Drum, N.Y., after charges were filed May 14, Army officials said. During his tenure at West Point, McClendon served as a "tactical noncommissioned officer," described

moral-ethical programs." The student body at West Point numbers about 4,500 cadets; just over 15 percent are female. The allegations at West Point, the nation's oldest and most prestigious military academy, came in the midst of growing outrage in the armed services, in Congress and even from President Barack Obama over reports of sexual harassment and sexual assault in the military - and at the failure of official efforts to reduce the problem and protect victims. They also come as the Army has begun integrating women into a number of combat positions, bringing added demands for fair and equal treatment of those in uniform. "The Army is committed to ensuring the safety

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Brutal attack in London blamed on radical Islam



British Prime Minister David Cameron attends a press conference with French President Francois Hollande, unseen, at the Elysee Palace, in Paris, Wednesday, May 22, 2013. British Prime Minister David Cameron said there are "strong indications" that a brutal attack in London is terror-related. (AP Photo/Thibault Camus)

Continued from front

Footage — obtained by ITV news and The Sun newspaper — showed a man in a dark jacket and knit cap walking toward a camera, clutching a meat cleaver and a knife. Speaking in English with a British accent, he apologized that women passers-by "have had to witness this" barbarity, saying that "in our land our women have to see the same."

He gave no indication what that land was as he urged people to tell the government to "bring our troops back." British troops are deployed in Afghanistan and recently supported the French-led intervention in Mali.

"We swear by almighty Allah we will never stop fighting you," the man declared. "We must fight them as they fight us." The camera then panned away to show a body lying on the ground.

The Associated Press examined the footage to verify its authenticity, cross-referencing images from the scene, aerial shots, the location of a car behind the alleged attacker and the appearance of a body and a car in the background. There was no immediate way for the AP to verify who the cameraman was.

Other images showed the second suspect clutching a long knife as he engaged in conversation with a woman who British media said tried to intervene to prevent further bloodshed.

The Daily Telegraph identified the woman as Ingrid Loyau-Kennett, 48, and said she confronted the attackers, telling them: "It is only you versus many people. You are going to lose." Saying she wanted to stop the suspect from attacking anyone else, she asked him if he "did it" and what he wanted.

"He said: 'I killed him because he killed Muslims and I am fed up with peo-

ple killing Muslims in Afghanistan. They have nothing to do there,'" she told the newspaper.

Britain has been at the heart of several terror attacks or plots in recent years, the most deadly being the 2005 rush-hour suicide bombings when 52 commuters were killed. More recently, Parviz Khan was convicted in 2008 of plotting to kidnap and behead a British Muslim soldier in Birmingham.

Some extremists have lashed out at Britain's involvement in Afghanistan and Iraq. Recently, groups have also criticized Britain's assistance in the French-led mission to Mali to root out Islamic extremists in the north.

Britain's prime minister said there were "strong indications" Wednesday's attack was a terrorist incident.

"We have suffered these

attacks before, we have always beaten them back," Cameron said. "We will not be cowed, we will never buckle." Two U.K. government officials said the attack seemed to have been ideologically motivated by radical Islam, adding that the assessment was not based solely on video footage of one suspect making political statements against the British government. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak about the ongoing investigation. Scotland Yard confirmed that counterterrorism officers were leading an investigation into the attack. Commissioner Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe said the two men had been arrested and urged Londoners to remain calm. Both were hospitalized, one in serious condition. □



Far-right group, English Defence League leader, Tommy Robinson, left, with EDL supporters outside The Queens Arms public house in Woolwich, south east London, following the death of a man, believed to be a serving soldier, who was murdered in broad daylight near the Royal Artillery Barracks in Woolwich, Wednesday, May 22, 2013.

(AP Photo/PA, Neil Lancefield)

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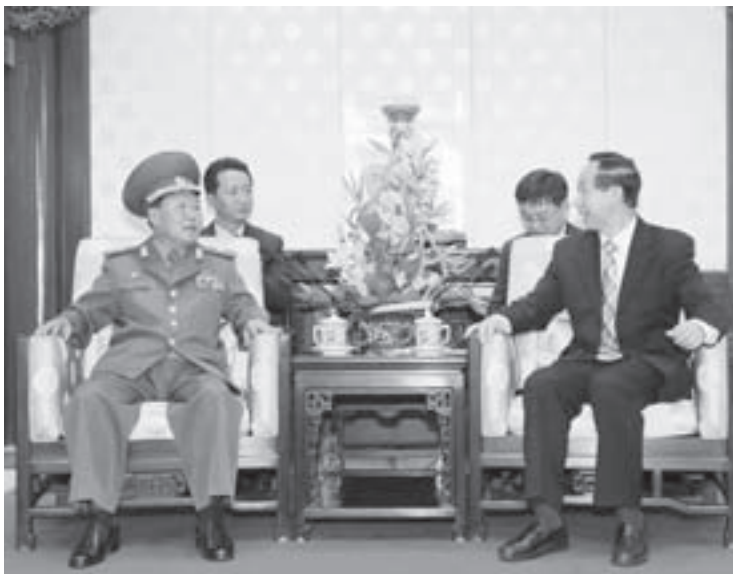
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North Korean leader sends special envoy to China

MARGIE MASON
Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — After months of ignoring Chinese warnings to

abductions of its citizens, a move that has drawn concern among allies of Tokyo who want denuclearization to be the focus of talks.



Wang Jiarui, right, the head of the Chinese leadership's international affairs office, meets with North Korea's Vice Marshal Choe Ryong Hae, a senior Workers' Party official and the military's top political officer, left, in Beijing, Wednesday, May 22, 2013. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un veered from threats of nuclear war to tentative diplomacy by sending a trusted confidant to China on Wednesday, a high-profile outreach to Beijing's new leadership at a time of strained ties between the allies.

(AP Photo/Xinhua, Ding Lin)

give up nuclear weapons, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un sent a high-level confidant to Beijing on Wednesday, in a possible effort to mend strained ties with his country's most important ally and a sign that he may be giving diplomacy a chance.

The trip by Vice Marshal Choe Ryong Hae, a senior Workers' Party official and the military's top political officer, is taking place as tensions ease somewhat on the Korean Peninsula after near-daily vows from Pyongyang to attack Washington and Seoul in March and April.

The United States, Japan, South Korea, China and Russia have been busy discussing how best to engage with the North Koreans. Japan sent an envoy to North Korea last week to discuss decades-old

Choe's visit is the first this year by a top North Korean official to China, which is under pressure from the U.S. and others to rein in its belligerent neighbor. It's also the first since a change of leadership in Beijing, whose new leaders have demonstrated a willingness to work with Washington to harry Pyongyang over its nuclear weapons programs even as stability in North Korea remains the Chinese government's priority.

North Korea also revealed Wednesday that a former defense minister, Kim Kyok Sik, was promoted to chief of the Korean People's Army in the latest in a series of high-level military reshuffles as Kim Jong Un elevates a new generation of military leaders.

Foreign analysts see Choe's trip as part fence-

mending mission, part appeal for aid.

The last high-level North Korea-China meeting took place when Chinese Communist Party chief Xi Jinping sent a Politburo member to Pyongyang in November. Weeks later, North Korea launched a long-range rocket, followed by an underground nuclear test in February. That test, the country's third, drew tight-

ened sanctions by the U.N. and United States.

Showing its displeasure with North Korea, China has tightened inspections on cross-border trade and its state banks have halted business with North Korea's Foreign Trade Bank — signs that Beijing is getting serious about enforcing sanctions. "The North Korean side has been feeling China's pressure," said Ma Xiaojun, a

North Korea watcher at the Central Party School, a think tank for the leadership in Beijing.

"Our policies and stance have tended to be tougher and more clearly express our unhappiness and displeasure," said Ma. He added, quoting President Xi, "causing trouble on China's doorstep is not right, and China will not tolerate it." □



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Egypt:

Morsi claims victory in captives' release

SARAH EL DEEB
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — The safe release Wednesday of seven conscripts kidnapped by suspected militants in Sinai brought a victory for Egypt's Islamist president after months of criticism that his government is mismanaging the country. Seated with top military brass and senior officials, an animated Mohammed Morsi lauded the release as a show of how unified and

strong his leadership is and urged his opponents to work with his government in dealing with Egypt's multiple crises.

Despite the end of the nearly weeklong kidnapping drama, however, Morsi's government has left unresolved the issue of widespread lawlessness and growing power of Islamic militants in the Sinai Peninsula. Key questions remained over how the release of the six police con-

scripts and a military border guard was negotiated and whether the militants suspected of kidnapping them will be pursued.

Critics warned that the resolution only boosted militants. The biggest winners from the crisis may be hardline Islamists on whom Morsi relies for political support and who said they played a role in mediating the captives' release.

The seven captives were released early Wednesday

in the middle of the desert in northern Sinai. They had been abducted last Thursday, sparking widespread public anger over the state's inability to rein in armed groups in the peninsula. The outrage was fueled when a video of the seven was released showing them bound and on the ground, pleading for Morsi to meet the kidnappers' demands for the release of detainees from Sinai, including convicted militants.

Military spokesman Col. Ahmed Mohammed Ali said the release came about as a "result of efforts by military intelligence, in cooperation with the honorable tribal leaders and Sinai residents." Alongside the behind-the-scenes mediation, the military and security forces had carried out a large buildup of troops in Sinai as a show of strength.

Morsi took center stage at a televised welcoming ceremony for the released conscripts. Flanked by his defense and interior ministers, Morsi alone shook their hands and patted their shoulders. Speaking afterward, he praised an "operation" that showcased "perfect" coordination between the armed forces, the police and security agencies. □



This image released by the Egyptian Presidency shows Mohammed Morsi, center, embracing an Egyptian conscript after he was freed from captivity, in Cairo, Egypt, Wednesday, May 22, 2013. (AP Photo/Egyptian Presidency)

Iceland forms center-right govt, halts EU talks

JENNA GOTTLIEB
Associated Press

REYKJAVIK, Iceland (AP) — The leader of the center-right Progressive Party was chosen as Iceland's new prime minister Wednesday and promptly announced a halt to talks with the European Union about joining the 27-nation bloc.

Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson spoke about the policy shift at a press conference after being selected premier.

"The government intends to halt negotiations between Iceland and the European Union," he said. "We will not hold further negotiations with the European Union without prior referendum."

Iceland has engaged in on-and-off talks with the EU for several years. Gunnlaugsson's party has been opposed, in part because members fear that joining would mean giving up control of Iceland's vital fishing stocks.

The new government will also include Bjarni Benediktsson, head of the conservative Independent Party, who will serve as minister of finance.

Icelanders voted April 27, returning to power the parties who had governed for decades before the 2008 economic collapse, the Independents and the Progressive Party.

The two parties had ruled together from 1995 until the 2008 fiasco. After the collapse of the Icelandic banking sector that year, Icelanders voted in a liberal government led by the Social Democrats and the Left-Greens.

The small North Atlantic nation with a population of 320,000 went from economic powerhouse to financial disaster almost overnight when its main commercial banks collapsed within a week in 2008. The value of the country's currency plummeted, while inflation and unemployment figures soared. Iceland was forced to seek a bailout from Europe and the International Monetary Fund. □

Iran's Ahmadinejad looks to outsider options

ALI AKBAR DAREINI
BRIAN MURPHY
Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — By now, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is well-acustomed to enduring blows from Iran's ruling clerics as his reputation fell from favored son to political outcast.

But their intended parting shot — barring his chief aid from the presidential race — may be just the opening act in Ahmadinejad's reinvention as a self-styled opposition force.

Ahadinejad vowed Wednesday to use what clout he has left to challenge the ruling by elec-

tion overseers to block his protege from the June 14 ballot to pick Iran's next president.

His chances of success are likely very small. Yet his refusal to accept the ruling clerics' judgment is a sign that his political transition is already underway from an insider at odds with the leadership to an outsider with the potential to be even more disruptive.

"The election will be as much about what Ahmadinejad does as the candidates running to replace him," said Patrick Clawson, director of research at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. "He still re-

mains in the spotlight."

Ahadinejad — once seen as firmly within the theocracy's fold — is now viewed by the leadership as a troublesome maverick after trying to challenge the authority of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. The rejection Tuesday of his confidant Esfandiar Rahim Mashaei — though widely expected and greatly overshadowed by former President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani also being ruled unfit for the race — marks an important crossroads for Ahmadinejad.

He is left politically adrift with no clear candidate to back and a highly uncer-

tain future after he steps down. He could seek an alliance with one of the eight candidates approved by the ruling clerics — nearly all close allies of Khamenei — by offering his still significant popular base, mainly in rural and poor areas that benefited from his government's development projects and handouts.

More likely, however, is that Ahmadinejad could try to carve out his own political movement as an alternative voice in a country facing a multitude of problems, including an economy dragged down in part by sanctions over Tehran's nuclear program. □



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Irishman charged with 1982 IRA Hyde Park bombing

SHAWN POGATCHNIK

Associated Press

DUBLIN (AP) — British prosecutors have charged a 61-year-old Irishman with the 1982 IRA attack on the queen's cavalry in Hyde Park, a nail-bombing at a top London tourist attraction that left four soldiers and seven horses dead. Wednesday's surprise arraignment of John Downey in a London court came on the 15th anniversary of the ratification of the Good Friday peace accord for Northern Ireland, which sought to end three decades of bloodshed over the disputed British territory. British authorities declined to explain why they arrested Downey as he arrived Sunday at London's Gatwick Airport nearly 31 years after the attack.

Sinn Fein demanded Downey's immediate release. The Irish nationalist party accused Britain of violating an agreement

not to pursue Downey, who had been on a list of IRA suspects "on the run" from British investigators.

Sinn Fein official Gerry Kelly called Downey's arrest "vindictive, unnecessary and unhelpful" and an act of "bad faith" by the British government. The party said Britain should no longer be pursuing Irish Republican Army suspects in keeping with the spirit, if not the letter, of the 1998 Good Friday pact.

The IRA's main faction, the Provisional IRA, killed nearly 1,800 people during a failed 1970-1997 campaign to force Northern Ireland out of the United Kingdom. Anti-terrorist police in London and Northern Ireland, including a special "cold cases" unit, have continued to investigate unsolved IRA killings despite the Provisionals' 2005 decision to renounce violence and disarm. These sporadic arrests of IRA veterans, often



FILE—A detachment of the Queen's Household Cavalry lay dead, victims of a concealed car bomb detonated in Carriage Road, in London's Hyde Park, in this July 20, 1982 file photo.

(AP Photo/Peter Kemp)

with Sinn Fein ties, have repeatedly raised tensions in the peace process, which remains incomplete as IRA splinter groups continue to mount occasional bombings and shootings.

Kelly, who led the IRA's first car-bomb attacks on London in 1973, said Downey

had received a 2007 letter from Britain's Northern Ireland Office saying he was not wanted for questioning by any British police force and had traveled to London many times since then. Britain's Northern Ireland Office declined to comment on this.

In 2001, Britain agreed to give IRA fugitives from justice an amnesty so they could return to Northern Ireland without fear of arrest and prosecution, but the government later renege because lawmakers refused to back the deal. In court on Wednesday, Downey offered no plea and spoke only to confirm his identity as he faced four charges of murder and one count of conspiring to cause an explosion. He is the third man to face trial for the July 20, 1982, twin bomb attacks on troops engaged in entertainment and ceremonial duties in London, one of the most audacious operations ever mounted by the Provisional IRA.

The Hyde Park bomb, planted in a parked car, was detonated by remote control as the mounted troops trotted toward Buckingham Palace in a daily tourist event. □

Colombia: 10 soldiers killed in ELN rebel attack

CESAR GARCIA

Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)

— At least 10 Colombian soldiers were killed and six wounded Wednesday in a pre-dawn attack on an army patrol with home-made explosives by the country's second-largest leftist rebel band, the military said.

The 2 a.m. attack by the National Liberation Army, or ELN, occurred in a rural area of Chitaga in the northeastern state of Norte de Santander, said the regional divisional commander, Gen. Juan Pablo Amaya.

He said two of the wounded were in critical condition

and one soldier was missing and presumed captured by the rebels.

It was the biggest blow to Colombia's military since February, when seven soldiers died in combat with the larger rebel movement, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, and came on the eve of a regional trade summit in the western city of Cali that the leaders of Peru, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Spain and Canada were expected to attend. Amaya said the 32-man patrol was attacked while in a fixed position with sentries posted. He would not offer any other details, such as

whether any of the soldiers were sleeping at the time. Amaya said the men were out on a routine patrol.

Santos' government has been in peace talks with the FARC for the past six months in Cuba, and they are currently stalled on the first agenda item: land reform. The ELN, whose strength the Defense Ministry estimates at 2,000-3,000 fighters, is not involved but seeking similar negotiations.

The ELN kidnapped a Canadian mining executive, Gernot Wober of Toronto-based Braeval Mining Corp., in January in a state adjoining Norte de Santander.

It said earlier this month that it will not release Wober until his company turns over the title to its gold mining concessions in Norosi, in the San Lucas mountain range, to local communities, which the rebels say are the rightful owners. Santos says there will be no talks with the ELN until

the 47-year-old Wober, the company's vice president of exploration, is freed unconditionally.

Both the ELN and the FARC emerged in the 1960s, largely as an outgrowth of rural peasant movements seeking a more equitable distribution of Colombia's agricultural lands. □

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'Boom Town Baby':

African stock markets see gains

JASON STRAZIUSO

Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) —

The barrage of hourly tweets sent out by Aly-Khan Satchu — East Africa's version of CNBC's Mad Money host Jim Cramer — cheers on what Satchu says is a growing sentiment among investors: If you're not investing in Africa, you should be. Or as Satchu loudly proclaims on his Twitter feed or newspaper column: "ITS BOOM TOWN BABY."

Several African stock markets are seeing huge returns this year. Though small, Ghana's stock market is up more than 50 percent so far in 2013, one of the world's top performers. Kenya — up 35 percent — has been touching record highs all year. Nigeria is also up 35 percent on the year.

Global investors used to put their money into Africa in the continent's north — the Arab rim — and the south — South Africa, Satchu said. But now the money is going to the middle. When Rwanda offered \$400 million in 10-year dollar-denominated bonds last month, demand was more than eight times the supply.

"The American writer Edwin Lefevre wrote in the novel 'Reminiscences of a Stock Operator' that one of the rules is that the tape is your telescope. You have to look at the returns if you're going to be a serious investor. And right now Africa is flashing across everyone's tape," said Satchu.

"The golden flood of free money that Ben Bernake has launched on the world, usually it would stop short of Africa," said Satchu, who once ran the global trading desks in emerging markets for Credit Suisse First Boston and now runs his own financial management business in Nairobi.

With U.S. treasuries now paying so little, investors are putting money in Africa, he said.

At the World Economic Forum on Africa, held in Cape

Town, South Africa earlier this month, forum managing director Borge Brende noted that the continent's people are the youngest in the world, with 70 percent of the population under the age of 30.

"The perspective on Africa has changed dramatically the last years from an aid perspective into a perspective of economic growth, opportunities and also investments," Brende said.

Uhuru Kenyatta, the newly elected president of Kenya, told the Cape Town forum that Africa over the

wade into Africa carefully. The continent still needs to improve its infrastructure, improve gender equality and advance the population's skills and education, Brende said.

Corruption plagues businesses in Africa throughout their life cycle. Construction can be slow. Quality supply chains are difficult to find, a fact that keeps major corporations like McDonald's in only small corners of the continent. The corporate governance of small-cap stocks can be an issue, Satchu said, making large-cap stocks head-

bet on some real estate here (in Kenya) where the title is clear? Yes."

A report from the International Monetary Fund released this month titled "Sub-Saharan Africa: Building Momentum in a Multi-Speed World" predicted that growth in sub-Saharan Africa will accelerate moderately in 2013-14 and that inflation will continue to edge downward. Economic stagnation in the euro zone and the potential of a drop-off in outside investment could slow that growth, it said. "Sub-Saharan Africa has performed



Aly-Khan Satchu, the Chief Executive Officer of RICH Management Ltd, is seen in his office overlooking the skyline of Nairobi, Kenya. (AP Photo/Ben Curtis)

last 50 years spent its energies on emerging from the colonial period, when coup after coup weighed down advancement. Now African neighbors are learning how to work with one another to advance each other's business development, he said.

Rwandan President Paul Kagame, writing in the Wall Street Journal on Sunday following his country's wildly popular bond offering, noted that nine out of the world's 15 fast growing economies are in Africa. Foreign direct investment was \$9 billion in 2000; last year it exceeded \$80 billion, he wrote.

Despite the increased investment and rising stock indexes, investors must still

quartered in the U.S. or Europe more attractive.

"You're leveraging Africa opportunity and parent-company corporate governance," Satchu said. "Investors are going for these big cap stocks where they feel the corporate governance is the highest standard." Brende noted that the continent — a collection of 54 countries — still has 17 nations defined as fragile states. Africa, Satchu said, is not the homogeneous investment environment that the United States or India is.

"Would I throw my life savings into the DRC?" he said, referring to the violent but mineral-rich nation of Congo. "You must be joking. But would I make a big

strongly and should continue to do so," it said. "Output grew, on average, at a rate of 5.1 percent in 2012 and is projected to accelerate to 5.4 percent in 2013 and 5.7 percent in 2014." Satchu said big pension funds and university endowment funds are looking to invest in Africa. The issue for the continent, he said, is not going to be too little capital but too much, and how it absorbs it. Kagame wrote in the Journal that a view exists that development in Africa is a marathon, not a sprint. He said Rwanda does not agree. "In our pursuit of progress, we have of course looked to East Asia's so-called 'tiger' economies for inspiration. □

Weak yen is a help for Japan

ELAINE KURTENBACH

AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — A steady fall in the value of the yen is proving a godsend for exporters such as Toyota. The cheaper yen is making their products more affordable overseas.

Japan's trading partners are generally pleased, too, even though the lower yen makes their exports relatively more expensive. As many see it, other nations — from China to Britain to the United States — stand to benefit from a more vibrant Japanese economy, the world's third-largest.

Then there are entrepreneurs like Thamonwan Thawornhawee Wong. They have a more sour view. Thamonwan sells imported goods in Japan, like Angry Bird fish balls, squid rings and other products. The lower yen makes such goods cost more in Japan. "It's affecting us because Japanese customers need to pay more," she says.

Even Japanese policymakers who favor a cheaper yen to help energize Japan's long-stagnant economy wonder if the currency's fall could go too far.

The yen slipped past 100 to the U.S. dollar this month. It's hovering near 102 yen per dollar — more than 20 percent weaker relative to the dollar and the euro than it was six months ago.

Gyrations in exchange rates can erode business confidence and investment. The yen's decline has also raised the risk of a currency war in which nations manipulate their currencies' values as economic weapons. In Japan, Abenomics is so far having a mixed effect. Automakers and electronics makers are enjoying higher profits. But energy-intensive steel mills and utilities are struggling with surging costs for fuel and other key commodities when valued in yen. The search for higher returns by Japan's megabanks and insurers, and other investors, is keeping brokerage AB Capital Securities in Manila, the Philippines, busy. □



Preparations in full swing:

The 27th edition of the Aruba Hi-Winds kicks off July 2!

FISHERMEN'S HUTS - The month of July is approaching fast. The 27th edition of the Aruba Hi-Winds will be a great windsurf and kite festival again. All you riders and windsurf fans from around the world, you are welcome again to sail races and come enjoy a week full of fun activities and entertainment. Preparations are in full swing and we

promise it will be a great spectacle. The concept of the event remains the same, but every year there are changes that make the event, bigger, better and more exiting. This year the two organizers, Jorke Braaksma and Cees Terpstra want to make the event accessible to everyone, for young and old, for first-time windsurfers and Pro Riders.



There will be more long distance races than in previous years and everybody can join in. Of course the Freestyle at Boca Grandi is certainly not forgotten. The Hi-Winds 2013 will take place from July 2 till 8 at the good old windsurf spot: the 'Fishermen's Huts'.

The Hi-Winds is known for being an event that offers more than just wind and kite surfing. This year we will again organize a fashion show and in the weekend there is the Night Kite Show. On Saturday there will be another show which

is still a surprise! The beach tennis court and Stand Up Paddle board competition are also fun side events that are going to be organized during the week.

On Saturday afternoon, the 1st Aruba Hi-Winds Mountain Bike Event will be organized.

This year the live performances will be provided by Honeypot, Earplugs, Mystical Connection and Dushi Band and the new starting band of Sazazú. These performances will take place after the Happy Hour, from 5 to 7 in the

weekend. Cool FM in the "Cas di Glas" will be 24/7 live on the beach with a custom Hi-Winds program. Watch the Aruba Hi-Winds 2013 trailer at the Aruba Hi-Winds Facebook page and you will get a good impression. Like this page and we will keep you informed of all activities.

Something never seen before is our Aruba Hi-Winds 2013 App! During the event, you can continuously monitor all that's happening at the Aruba Hi-Winds 2013!

See you all at the beach! ☐



AAA proudly announces:

2012 showed a record amount of visitors for the airport!

ORANJESTAD - The year 2012 ended with an absolute record in traffic numbers ever experienced by Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA). The growth for Aruba was higher than expected and although lower than the global average of 5.3%, a nevertheless solid 4.5% increase in departing passenger movements. This comes slightly unexpected as there was more than plenty economic bad news in Europe due to the protracted banking crisis and its effect on national economies.

As in 2011, traffic growth numbers varied substantially per region; growth for Aruba was predominantly due to growth in the following segments: Latin America & Caribbean and (former) Netherlands Antilles increased with 15.2% and 13.3% respectively. The US market was slightly up with 0.9%, whilst Europe decreased with almost 6.6%. Globally, cargo markets contracted with 1.5%, more than double the figure of 2011 and radiating very little economic up-



swing for the immediate future.

The number of Passenger Facility Charge paying (de-

parting) passengers ("PFC passengers") increased in total with 4.5% to 1,029,738 for the full year, making

2012 the best year ever. The total number of passengers processed by the airport (including transfer, transit and general aviation passengers) amounted to 2,120,578 (+1.6%), again the highest figure ever. Total aircraft movements increased significantly with 6.8% to 41,530 movements. This effect was mostly due to increased general aviation flights.

Aeronautical revenues increased by 3.5%, slightly less than passenger growth. Total non-aeronautical revenue increased with 5.5%, indicating slightly better performance per passenger. Total operational ex-

penses were 6.0% higher than in 2011. Personnel expenses increased with 3.3%, mainly due to a new collective labor agreement.

Energy consumption was slightly higher due to the commissioning of the new aircraft hangars and a larger number of retailers. The higher other expenses are partly due to a one-off payment to Land Aruba; without said payment total operating expenses would have increased with 5.1%. Due to that payment, the net profit over 2012 decreased slightly with 5.0% to a still very satisfactory AWG 16.3 million net profit. □

**Beauty
On The
Beach**

*Estefania
Torcat*

She is from
Caracas Venezuela
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Westin hotel, First
time in Aruba. We
wish her a pleasant
stay here in Aruba

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From Argentina: Alfredo and Cristina Silvestro honored as Distinguished Visitors

NOORD - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple whom are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, as Distinguished Visitors, at the residence of Mr. Anthony and Mrs. Silvia Jerez Croes. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10 or more consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Alfredo and Mrs. Cristina Silvestro from Buenos Aires, Argentina. Alfredo and Cristina love Aruba very much for the climate, beaches, restaurants, their resort - the Caribbean Palm Village, and they love to meet every year with their lovely Aruban friends. The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with their friends Anthony and Silvia in the Art Gallery Etnia Nativa. □



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CASINO AND SHOPS

At La Cabana Resort: Loyal guests Eamon and Christine MCDevitt honored by ATA!



EAGLE BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple whom are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, at the La Cabana Beach Resort, as Distinguished Visi-

tors. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10 to 19 consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Eamon and Mrs.

Christine MCDevitt from Dedham, MA. USA. Eamon and Christine are loyal members of the La Cabana Beach Resort, and they love Aruba for the climate, beaches, restaurants and Aruba feels like a second

home to them. The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Sharine Charles representing the La Cabana Beach Resort. □

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood! *Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"*



ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



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Driftwood Restaurant. This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95 **Charter deep sea fishing rates:** \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 www.driftwoodaruba.com Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.



In this May 27, 2012, file photo, Zach Johnson pumps his fist after winning the Colonial golf tournament in Fort Worth, Texas.

Associated Press

Zach Johnson always feels good at Colonial

STEPHEN HAWKINS
AP Sports Writer

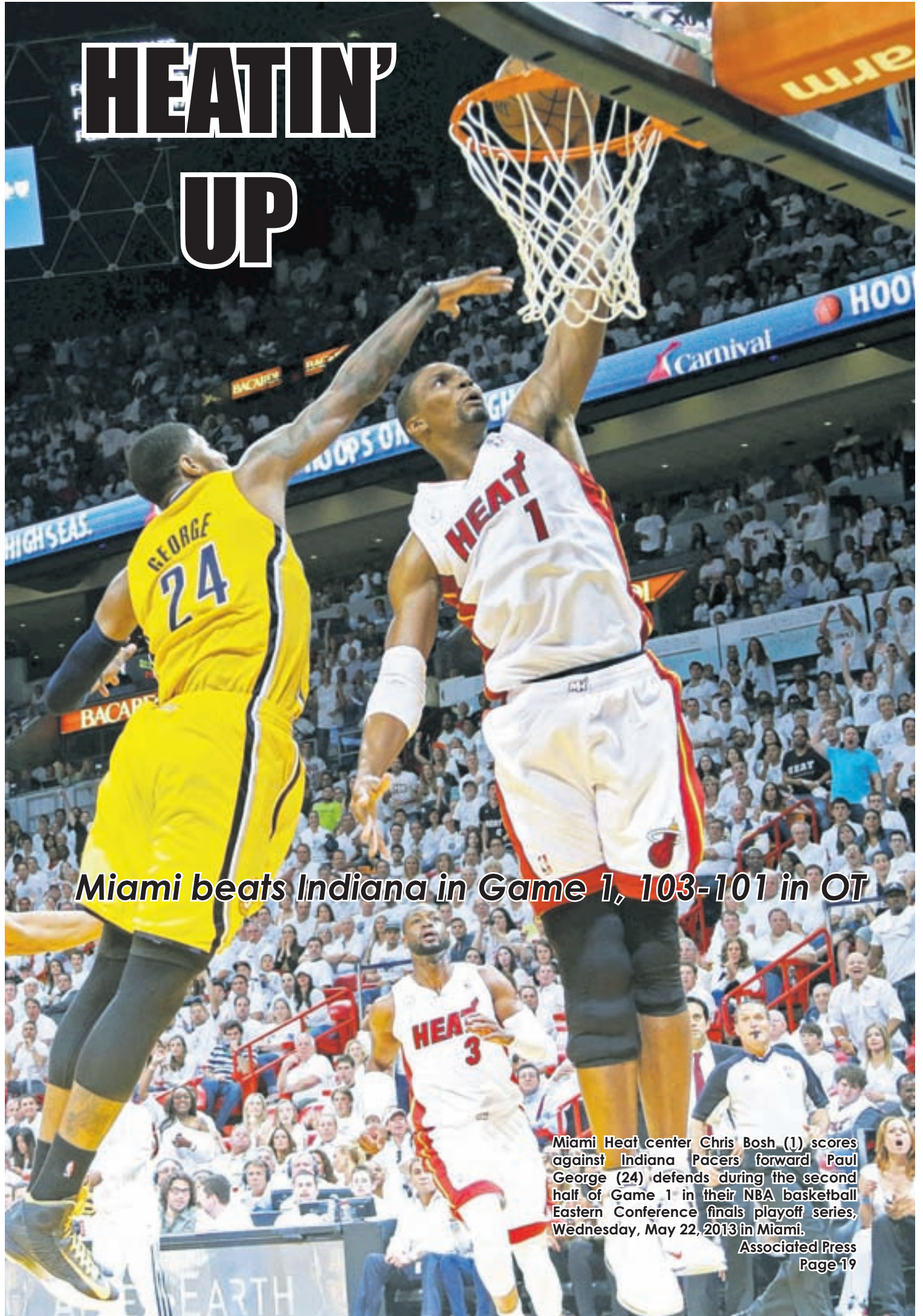
FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) —

Zach Johnson always feels good when he gets to Colonial, and the feeling usually lasts through the week. Johnson has won at Hogan's Alley twice in the last three years. He is the first player in more than three decades with four consecutive top-10 finishes in the event.

Now he's back as the defending champion, without a top 10 this season. But he has felt good even without eye-catching results.

"I'm going to hopefully take some of those good feelings I've had over the last four years, not necessarily dwell on them, but embrace them and put them into play in some regard," Johnson said Wednesday, a day before beginning his title defense. Five-time winner Ben Hogan is the only player who has won the Colonial more than twice, and he finished in the top 10 seven times in a row during a span when he won four times from 1946-53.

Continued on Page 18



Miami beats Indiana in Game 1, 103-101 in OT

Miami Heat center Chris Bosh (1) scores against Indiana Pacers forward Paul George (24) defends during the second half of Game 1 in their NBA basketball Eastern Conference finals playoff series, Wednesday, May 22, 2013 in Miami.

Associated Press
Page 19

Zach Johnson

Continued from Page 17

Tom Watson had been the last with four top 10s in a row at Colonial (1977-80). Matt Kuchar, No. 13 in the world rankings, is the highest-ranked player in Colonial's invitational field. The only other three in the top 25 are Charl Schwartzel, 2012 Colonial runner-up Jason Dufner and Hunter Mahan.

When Johnson slipped on the winner's plaid jacket last May, it was first victory since the 2010 Colonial. He also won the John Deere Classic last summer.

This season, Johnson has made nine of 12 cuts this year. His best finish was a tie for 18th at the Tournament of Champions in January, but he tied for 19th at The Players Championship two weeks ago.

"I'm excited. I like where my game is going, or is," Johnson said. "I like where it is and I like where it's going. So I'm just trying to remain patient and let things kind of happen."

It's not really the lack of top-10 finishes that bothers Johnson.

"It's been frustrating that I truly haven't been in contention late on Sunday. That would be my biggest frustration," he said. "What is comforting is that the beginning of the year I was probably more off than I would even like to admit fundamentally. But in saying that, what's comfortable about that is the fact that I would rather be off fundamentally than certainly physically or even mentally. My attitude has been great."

Johnson then joked that he understood if reporters might not really know about his good attitude because he hasn't been in many interview sessions based on his play.

"If you ask my caddie, it truly has been good," Johnson said. "I've been very positive and certainly trying to keep working. I have hit a lot of balls, in February, March, April and even into May just to try to get it back." □

Castroneves, Franchitti chase 4th Indy 500 win



Scotland's Dario Franchitti, left, and Brazil's Helio Castroneves are interviewed, in New York, Monday May 20, 2013. They will try to become the first foreign-born four-time winners in Indianapolis 500 history at Sunday's race.

RACHEL COHEN AP Sports Writer

Helio Castroneves believes plenty of today's IndyCar fans have never seen a driver win the Indianapolis 500 for a record-tying fourth time.

He can change that on Sunday. So could Dario Franchitti.

It's been 22 years since Rick Mears became the third driver with four Indy 500 victories. He won No. 4 in 1991 to join AJ Foyt and Al Unser in the exclusive club.

This will be the first time since 1987 that two three-time winners will start the Indy 500.

"What an incredible opportunity for the fans to have not only one but two guys trying to make history," Castroneves said this week while promoting the race with Franchitti in New York City. "Forget about the names, forget about who it is. But imagine people who didn't even see the last time when the guy won four times."

Scotland's Franchitti or Brazil's Castroneves would be the first foreign-born four-

time winner.

Castroneves won his third in 2009, so he's used to the pressure of trying to tie the record. Since then, Franchitti won No. 2 in 2010 and No. 3 last year.

Castroneves qualified eighth, while Franchitti will start 17th after a frustrating day last Saturday for Chip Ganassi Racing. Franchitti, a four-time IndyCar champion, is just 15th in the standings.

Then again, things didn't look much better a year ago — and he went out and won.

"Last year, we had an even worse start to the season," Franchitti said. "We were sitting here this time last year having qualified 16th, and we were thinking we're in trouble. Honda brought an updated engine to the race, and all of a sudden we're in the game."

Franchitti, who turned 40 on Sunday, remembers when he thought he'd retire at 35. Instead, much of his success has come after that age. All three Indy 500 victories were in the last six years.

Another big milestone with the No. 4 is it could come a week after his birthday. But Franchitti won't try to put that accomplishment into context until it actually occurs.

"To kind of tempt fate a little bit, and say what it would mean and what it would feel like and all that stuff, is kind of wasted energy right now," he said.

The 38-year-old Castroneves, who earned his first two Indy 500 victories in 2001 and 2002, has the advantage of working with Mears on Team Penske.

Mears won his first three in 1979, 1984 and 1988 before earning the record-tying victory three years later. Foyt and Unser had to wait much longer between Nos. 3 and 4 — Foyt's wins came in 1961, 1964, 1967 and 1977, with Unser's in 1970, 1971, 1978 and 1987.

Compared to that, not much time has passed since Castroneves' last victory.

"If the preparation's right, the opportunity right, it's going to come up naturally," he said. □



Italy's Giovanni Visconti pedals during the 17th stage of the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy cycling race, from Caravaggio to Vicenza, Wednesday, May 22, 2013. Associated Press

Visconti takes 2nd victory on 17th stage

VICENZA, Italy (AP) — Giovanni Visconti won the 17th stage of the Giro d'Italia on Wednesday to claim another solo victory, while Vincenzo Nibali maintained his grip on the overall lead.

Visconti, who also won Sunday's 15th stage with an impressive solo climb, attacked near the top of the Crosara to triumph in a time of 5 hours, 15 minutes, 34 seconds along the mainly flat 214 kilometers (133 miles) from Caravaggio to Vicenza.

Ramunas Navardauskas led a bunch over the line to finish second, 19 seconds behind Visconti. Luka Mezgec was third. Navardauskas raised his arms in celebration as he crossed the line, possibly thinking he'd won the stage.

Visconti's success comes after a troubled 18 months in which he struggled with depression. The three-time Italian cycling champion was also banned for three months and fined \$13,000 at the end of last year for seeing banned physician Michele Ferrari.

"There was a moment in which I simply felt that I was one of so many others, I had fallen into a dark abyss because of problems which couldn't be solved in two months. It was a really awful period for me," Visconti said. "The other day, on the Galiber, it was as if something became unblocked inside me head." □

Heat beats Pacers in overtime thriller in Game 1

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP Basketball Writer

MIAMI (AP) — LeBron James made a layup as time expired in overtime, and the Miami Heat found a way to beat the Indiana Pacers 103-102 in a wild Game 1 of the Eastern Conference finals Wednesday night.

James finished with 30 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists for the Heat — his ninth postseason triple-double, and barely anyone noticed. All that mattered was the last shot, which simply saved the Heat.

Paul George made three free throws with 2.2 seconds left in the overtime, which he forced with a miracle 3-pointer, to give the Pacers the lead. But James — with Indiana shot-blocking center Roy Hibbert curiously on the bench — just drove down the left side of the lane, scored with ease and the Heat escaped.

Game 2 is Friday night in Miami. Officials reviewed James' play at the end, though it was clear he beat the clock, and the Pacers walked slowly toward their locker room, lamenting one that got away — by no fault of George's.

George was fouled by Dwyane Wade on the play where the Pacers had to

think they had stolen the series opener.

George saved the Pacers in regulation with a 32-footer with 0.7 seconds left in regulation that tied the game, and tried a shot from a similar distance as time was expiring in the extra session. Referee Jason Phillips said Wade hit George, and the Pacers' star made all three free throws for the 16th lead change of the night. The final lead change came moments later, and Miami survived a game that had 18 ties and neither team ever leading by more than seven points.

Wade scored 19 points, Chris Bosh had 17 and Chris Andersen had 16 on 7 for 7 shooting for Miami.

George scored 27 for the Pacers, who got 26 from David West, 19 from Hibbert. The Pacers have won only two series in franchise history after dropping a Game 1.

The final few seconds of regulation were stunning, with Ray Allen — the sixth-best free-throw shooter in NBA history — missing one that proved big, and George making a miracle happen.

Trailing by two with 17.7 seconds left, the Pacers had to foul Allen, who surely would have been



Miami Heat forward LeBron James (6) gestures during the second half of Game 1 in their NBA basketball Eastern Conference finals playoff series against the Indiana Pacers, Wednesday, May 22, 2013 in Miami.

Associated Press

their last choice. But he missed one of the two free throws, and it remained a one-possession game. Indiana brought the ball into the frontcourt, called time, and then seemed to have nothing really working as

the final seconds of regulation ticked away.

So George simply made something happen.

From 32 feet — from the newly applied Eastern Conference finals sticker on the side of the court,

technically — George connected with 0.7 seconds left, tying the game and giving Indiana life.

Allen didn't get much of a desperation shot off at the end of regulation, and to overtime the teams went. The Pacers kept landing the first punches. George made a pair of free throws to open the extra session, and Andersen tied it with a pair of his own. Hibbert scored from close range, and Wade answered with an easy one after a runout for the 16th tie of the night. George was far from done. He went past James, got into the lane, tossed up a shot after contact and started what became a three-point play that put the Pacers up 99-96. Miami had three chances at the tie — a desperation 3-pointer by Shane Battier as the shot clock was expiring, then a 3-point try by Battier and another 3 attempt by Battier.

All missed. But Bosh grabbed the rebound of the last Battier shot that bounced off the rim in that sequence, scored while being fouled by George with 49.7 seconds left, calmly swished the free throw and the teams were — what else? — tied again at 99-all. □

Cavaliers win NBA draft lottery again

BRIAN MAHONEY
AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Cleveland Cavaliers beat the odds for the second time in three years by winning Tuesday's lottery to give them the No. 1 pick in the NBA draft.

The Orlando Magic fell back one spot to No. 2, while the Washington Wizards vaulted from the No. 8 spot to third.

It was 16-year-old Nick Gilbert, son of the team's owner, who again proved the lucky charm for the Cavaliers.

Representing the team for the ceremony, Gilbert was handed the No. 1 pick, just

as he was in 2011, when the Cavs used the selection to take eventual Rookie of the Year Kyrie Irving.

"Kyrie is a hell of a player ... but this also felt almost as good," Nick Gilbert said. "That was the first time. This is the second time, but man does it feel good to get the first pick this last time. Get that last player to give us a push."

Ten years after winning the lottery that landed them LeBron James, the Cavaliers picked up another opportunity to help speed up the rebuilding process since his departure to Miami in 2010.

"It's so long ago already. I



Cleveland Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert congratulates his son Nick Gilbert after the team won the NBA basketball draft lottery, Tuesday, May 21, 2013 in New York.

knew it is only three years but in NBA years it's like dog years. It seems like it is 15 or 20 years," owner Dan

Gilbert said. "We've been just so focused on building the team the last few years, I can't look back. There is

nothing you can do. I am just happy about today."

The potential No. 1 pick this year, Kentucky freshman Nerlens Noel, is no James. But he could be a nice addition for the Cavs once he's recovered from a serious knee injury. They also have Nos. 19, 31 and 33 for new coach Mike Brown, who they rehired after firing Byron Scott following a 24-58 season.

"We were hoping regardless of what pick we got that this would be our last lottery," Dan Gilbert said. "We thought originally after everything had to be reset that it would be a three-year process. You never know. It could be four. We thought three years, but having No. 1 and 19, we've got a pretty good chance of this being the last one for a while." □

O's beat Yankees 3-2 in 10 to end 6-game skid

The Associated Press

BALTIMORE (AP) — Nate McLouth homered leading off the bottom of the 10th inning, Chris Dickerson hit a pair of solo shots and the Baltimore Orioles beat the New York Yankees 3-2 Tuesday night to snap a six-game losing streak.

McLouth hit a 1-1 pitch from Vidal Nuno (1-1) into the bleachers in right-center to give the Orioles their first win since May 12.

Jim Johnson (2-4), who blew three save opportunities during the six-game skid, got three straight outs in the 10th. His performance capped an exceptional effort by Orioles pitchers, who retired 21 of the last 22 New York batters. Travis Hafner drove in both runs for the Yankees, who fell to 19-1 when scoring first.

ANGELS 12, MARINERS 0 ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Mike Trout hit for the cycle and drove in five runs, Josh Hamilton celebrated his



Los Angeles Angels' Mike Trout hits a solo home run in the eighth inning, to hit for the cycle against the Seattle Mariners during a baseball game Tuesday, May 21, 2013 in Anaheim. The Angels won the game 12-0.

Associated Press

32nd birthday with a homer and a triple, and Howie Kendrick also went deep in the Angels' rout of the Mariners.

Trout, last season's AL rookie of the year and MVP runner-up, became the sixth

player in Angels history to complete the cycle and the first to do it since Chone Figgins on Sept. 16, 2006, at Texas. Jerome Williams (3-1) scattered six hits over eight innings, struck out six and walked two while helping

send the Mariners to their season-high fifth straight loss. Aaron Harang (1-5) lasted only 3 1-2 innings in his first outing since May 7, giving up seven runs and nine hits — seven of them for extra bases.

ATHLETICS 1, RANGERS 0 ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Rookie right-hander Dan Straily pitched seven scoreless innings and Yoenis Cespedes homered as the Athletics won their fifth straight game, beating the Rangers and Yu Darvish.

Straily (2-2) gave up only two singles while facing 22 batters, just one over the minimum for his seven innings. He struck out five.

Even with consecutive wins to start the three-game series, Oakland still trails the Rangers by 4½ games in the AL West.

Darvish (7-2) had won all five of his previous starts this season when pitching after a Texas loss.

The Japanese right-hander struck out five, but walked three and hit a batter while

giving up five hits in six innings.

TIGERS 5, INDIANS 1

CLEVELAND (AP) — Miguel Cabrera hit a two-run homer and Max Scherzer retired 22 straight batters after the first inning, helping Detroit stop Cleveland's five-game winning streak.

Cabrera's laser shot in the sixth inning off Corey Kluber (3-3) helped the Tigers win for just the second time in six games. The defending AL champions also moved within 1 1/2 games of the first-place Indians, who have won 18 of 23 since April 28.

Scherzer (6-0) gave up two singles and a run in the first before shutting down baseball's hottest team for eight innings. The right-hander walked just one and struck out seven, including the final four he faced. Scherzer's 118th and last pitch was his fastest — a 98 mph heater to fan Drew Stubbs. Andy Dirks hit a solo homer in the sixth and had two RBIs as Detroit won the first

Bruins take 3-0 lead, Sharks square series

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Daniel Paille snapped a tie with 3:31 left in the third period, and the Boston Bruins put the New York Rangers on the brink of elimination with a 2-1 victory in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference semifinal series on Tuesday night.

Boston leads the best-of-seven series 3-0 and can advance to the conference finals as early as Thursday at Madison Square Garden. Only three teams in NHL history have rallied from an 0-3 hole to advance.

The Bruins trailed 1-0 heading into the third, but defenseman Johnny Boychuk tied it at 3:10 of the period with his fourth of the playoffs. The Rangers hadn't lost in regulation when leading after two periods since Feb. 4, 2010.

Boston thought it had grabbed the lead seconds before Paille actually scored when a shot

deflected off the mask of Rangers goalie Henrik Lundqvist, popped up in the air and landed on the goal line. Lundqvist couldn't find it before Paille swooped in from behind the net and poked in the puck.

Taylor Pyatt had made it 1-0 in the second period for the Rangers.

SHARKS 2, KINGS 1

SAN JOSE, California (AP) — Brent Burns helped San Jose jump off to a fast start with his second goal of the postseason and the Sharks tied their second-round series against Los Angeles at two games with a victory over the Kings in Game 4.

Logan Couture followed up his overtime game-winner in Game 3 with his fifth power-play goal of the playoffs to add to the lead and Antti Niemi made 22 saves as the Sharks matched the Kings' two home wins to open the series with two of their own.

Mike Richards scored a power-play goal and Jona-



Boston Bruins' Jaromir Jagr, left, tries to shoot from behind the goal while New York Rangers' Michael Del Zotto defends during the first period in Game 3 of the NHL Eastern Conference semifinal hockey playoff series on Tuesday, May 21, 2013, in New York.

Associated Press

than Quick made 21 saves for the Kings, who have lost 10 of 11 road games dating to the end of the regular season.

Game 5 is Thursday night in Los Angeles when the Sharks will look to end a streak of four straight wins by the home team in this

game of the short, show-down series.

RAYS 4, BLUE JAYS 3

TORONTO (AP) — Kelly Johnson and Desmond Jennings homered, Alex Cobb won for the first time in three starts to lead Tampa Bay past Toronto.

Cobb (5-2) allowed one run and three hits in 6 1-3 innings for his first victory since winning at Colorado on May 5. The right-hander walked two and struck out two. Thirteen of his 19 outs came on groundballs.

Jake McGee got two outs in the seventh before the Blue Jays rallied against Joel Peralta in the eighth. Munenori Kawasaki singled, Melky Cabrera walked and Jose Bautista hit an RBI single. Edwin Encarnacion struck out before Adam Lind reach on a fielding error by second baseman Ryan Roberts.

Roberts redeemed himself when Fernando Rodney came on and got J.P. Arencibia to ground into an inning-ending double play on the first pitch, with Roberts and shortstop Yunel Escobar combining. □

NL Capsules

Young and Howard lift Phillies over Marlins

The Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Delmon Young homered and Ryan Howard added three hits and three RBIs to help carry the Philadelphia Phillies to a 7-3 win over the Miami Marlins on Tuesday night. Tyler Cloyd (1-0) allowed two runs and eight hits in seven innings after being recalled from Triple-A Lehigh Valley earlier in the day. Miami's Jose Fernandez went five innings, allowing one run and five hits. He walked one and struck out two. Philadelphia went ahead 2-1 in the sixth when Domonic Brown's ground out scored Howard from third. Howard led off with a single and took third on Young's double to deep center off Duane Below (0-1). Howard's single with the bases loaded scored two runs and highlighted a four-run seventh that gave the Phillies a 6-1 lead. Howard returned to the lineup after missing two games with a sore left knee. He received a cortisone shot Sunday. **REDS 4, METS 0** **NEW YORK (AP)** — Mike Leake pitched three-hit ball for seven sharp innings and Cincinnati took advantage of Mets third baseman David Wright's early error. Devin Mesoraco homered as the Reds won for the

ninth time in 11 games. They scored three times in the first inning after Wright let a bases-loaded, two-out grounder skip through his legs. Leake (4-2) struck out four, walked two and became the latest pitcher to shut down the Mets at Citi Field. New York has lost 10 of 12 at home, rarely scoring many runs. Leake escaped his biggest jam by retiring slumping Ike Davis on a grounder with runners on second and third to end the fourth. New York starter Jonathon Niese (3-5) wasn't charged with an earned run. **PIRATES 5, CUBS 4** **PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Travis Snider hit a pinch-hit grand slam during a five-run sixth and Pittsburgh spoiled Matt Garza's strong return to the mound for the Cubs. Garza allowed one hit over five shutout innings in his first outing in 10 months, but the Pirates pounced on a Chicago bullpen that is 10th in the National League in ERA by sending 11 men to the plate in the sixth. Snider's first career home run with the bases loaded was the first Pirates pinch-hit grand slam in five years. Garza had been sidelined since July 21 because of a stress reaction in his right elbow and, later, a strained upper back..

Wandy Rodriguez (5-2) allowed three runs on six hits over six innings for the Pirates, who have won nine of 11. The Cubs scored once in the ninth, but Jason Grilli got Anthony Rizzo to strike out swinging with two on to end the game and earn his major league-leading 18th save. **BREWERS 5, DODGERS 2** **MILWAUKEE (AP)** — Carlos Gomez hit a go-ahead two-run double, Jonathan Lucroy had three hits and an RBI and five Milwaukee relievers combined for five scoreless innings to beat Los Angeles. Mike Fiers (1-2), Michael Gonzalez, John Axford, Brandon Kintzler and Jim Henderson pitched Milwaukee to only its fourth victory in its last 19 games by allowing a total of just four singles. Henderson threw the ninth for his ninth save, striking out pinch-hitter Scott Van Slyke with runners on first and second. Zach Greinke (2-1), making his second start since returning from a broken left collarbone, gave up nine hits and five earned runs in four-plus innings against his former team en route to his first career loss at Miller Park. The right-hander, traded by the Brewers to the Los Angeles Angels last July 27, had won his first 15 decisions in Milwaukee. □

Del Potro, Baker and Fish pull out of French Open

PARIS (AP) — Seventh-ranked Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina has pulled out of the upcoming French Open because of a respiratory virus. Del Potro said in a statement Wednesday that he has not fully recovered and is not fully fit to play. American players Brian Baker and Mardy Fish have also pulled out. Organizers said Baker has not recovered from a right knee operation and Fish

is unfit due to heart problems. They will be replaced in Friday's draw by Joao Sousa of Portugal and Guido Pella of Argentina. John Millan, an Australian wild-card entry, withdrew because of a shoulder injury and will be replaced by Nick Kyrgios of Australia. U.S. Open champion Andy Murray pulled out late Tuesday because of a chronic back injury and will be replaced by a lucky loser. □



Argentina's Juan Martin Del Potro returns the ball to France's Benoit Paire during their match at the Italian Open tennis tournament in Rome, Thursday, May 16, 2013.

Associated Press



Philadelphia Phillies' Ryan Howard (6) scores on a ground out to first by Domonic Brown in the sixth inning during a baseball game against the Miami Marlins in Miami, Tuesday, May 21, 2013. Associated Press

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MON - THURS 5:30 | 8:10
FRI 5:20 | 8:10 | 11:20
SAT 2:30 | 5:20 | 8:10 | 11:20
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 5:20 | 8:10

MON - THURS 4:10 | 7:00
FRI - SAT 4:10 | 7:00 | 10:25
SUN & HOL 4:10 | 7:00

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MON - FRI 6:00 | 9:00
SAT, SUN & HOL 3:05 | 6:00 | 9:00

REGULAR VERSION WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON - THURS 8:00
FRI - SAT 8:00 | 11:00
SUN & HOL 8:00

ON TWO SCREENS

AMANDA SEYFRIED | JASON SUDEIKIS

epic

3D VERSION WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON - FRI 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00
SAT, SUN & HOL 2:00 | 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00

REGULAR VERSION WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON - FRI 3:40
SAT, SUN & HOL 3:20 | 5:40

ON TWO SCREENS

CHRIS PINE | ZACHARY QUINTO

STAR TREK INTO DARKNESS

3D VERSION WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON - THURS 4:00 | 6:25 | 9:25
FRI 4:00 | 6:25 | 9:25
SAT 3:45 | 6:25 | 9:25
SUN & HOL 3:45 | 6:25 | 9:25

ON TWO SCREENS

ROBERT DOWNEY JR. | GWYNETH PALTROW

IRON MAN 3

MON - THURS 4:00 | 6:25 | 9:10
FRI 4:00 | 6:25 | 9:10 | 11:30
SAT 3:30 | 6:25 | 9:10 | 11:30
SUN & HOL 3:30 | 6:25 | 9:10

STARTING NEXT WEEK MAY 30 | THE HANGOVER PART III

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Personal Health:

Many Fronts Considered In The Obesity War

JANE E. BRODY

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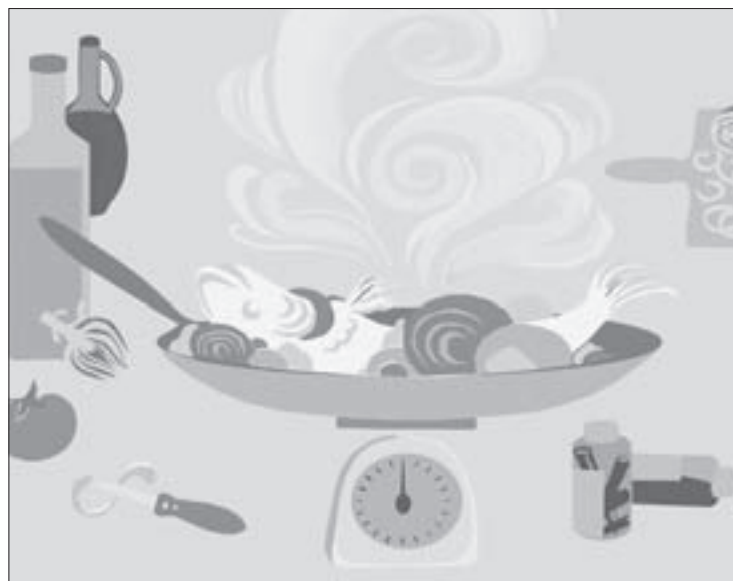
Sugar, and especially the high-fructose corn syrup that sweetens many processed foods and nearly all soft drinks, has been justly demonized for adding nutritionally empty calories to our diet and causing metabolic disruptions linked to a variety of diseases. But a closer look at what and how Americans eat suggests that simply focusing on sugar will do little to quell the rising epidemic of obesity. This is a multifaceted problem with deep historical roots, and we are doing too little about many of its causes.

More than a third of U.S. adults and nearly one child in five are now obese, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Our failure to curtail this epidemic is certain to exact unprecedented tolls on health and increase the cost of medical care. Effective measures to achieve a turnaround require a clearer understanding of the forces that created the problem and continue to perpetuate it. The increase in obesity began nearly half a century ago with a rise in calories consumed daily and a decline in meals prepared and eaten at home. According to the Department of Agriculture, in 1970 the food supply provided 2,086 calories per person

per day, on average. By 2010, this amount had risen to 2,534 calories, an increase of more than 20 percent. Consuming an extra 448 calories each day could add nearly 50 pounds to the average adult in a year.

Sugar, it turns out, is a mi-

especially home-cooked meals became less frequent. (Relatively few husbands became family cooks, sadly.) From 2005 to 2008, according to the Department of Agriculture, 20 percent of U.S. calories were consumed in fast-food and full-service res-



Sugar, and especially the high-fructose corn syrup that sweetens many processed foods and nearly all soft drinks, has been justly demonized for adding nutritionally empty calories to our diet and causing metabolic disruptions linked to a variety of diseases.
(Yvetta Fedorova/The New York Times)

nor player in the rise. More than half of the added calories - 242 a day - have come from fats and oils, and another 167 calories from flour and cereal. Sugar accounts for only 35 of the added daily calories. Demographic changes, and how the food and restaurant industries responded to them, compounded the problem. As more women entered the work force, family meals and

restaurants, more than triple the amount in 1977-78.

Eating just one meal a week away from home can translate into 2 extra pounds a year for the average person, the department calculated. Although the recent economic downturn forced more people to dine at home, the average adult now eats out nearly five times a week.

Unless calorie counts are

reliably listed on the menu, it is impossible to know how many are being consumed in a restaurant - never mind the bread, butter, chips and dip that people eat while waiting to be served. Portions have grown along with waistlines. Restaurants know that Americans love bargains, and providing huge portions doesn't add substantially to overhead. Although some weight-conscious diners will share an entree or take home half a meal for another day, most people tend to eat what they are served. These restaurants are training diners to believe a serving of food is much larger than what dietitians would consider a proper portion. Now, even when eating at home, people pile too much on their plates.

Portions of other foods also have ballooned. Bagels, once 2 ounces and 160 calories, now weigh up to 10 ounces and supply 800 calories even before anything is put on them. A Costco corn muffin has 520 calories, and a healthy-sounding raisin bran muffin from Au Bon Pain has 410. When an overweight person cuts down significantly on what he eats, the body defends itself by using fewer calories. The effect can be long-lasting: If a person's weight drops to 150 pounds from 250, significantly fewer calories must be consumed daily to stay

at that weight than would be necessary if the person had never been overweight.

Even if a 170-pound person loses 20 pounds, he needs 15 percent fewer calories to maintain the new weight than someone who always weighed 150. Short of bariatric surgery, very gradual weight loss - say, no more than 20 pounds a year - may be the only way around this metabolic slowdown. This strategy gives the body and appetite a chance to adjust.

Willpower rarely helps people who struggle with their weight. With constant temptations to eat more, and especially more high-calorie foods, our society must change. Instead of subsidies for corn used to produce high-fructose corn syrup, let the government subsidize more fresh fruits and vegetables. Michael Pollan, an author and journalism professor at the University of California, Berkeley, has said it best: "Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants." His newest book, "Cooked: A Natural History of Transformation," adds a corollary: "And cook it yourself." No time? People always have time for what they consider important, and what is more important than your health? Home-cooked food contains better ingredients, and you know what you're eating. □

New drug may help some asthmatics, study finds

ANDREW POLLACK

© 2013 New York Times

A new asthma drug being developed by Sanofi and Regeneron Pharmaceuticals may help patients whose condition is not well controlled by existing medicines, according to the results of a small clinical trial released Tuesday.

In the 12-week study, the number of asthma attacks or other outbreaks of symptoms decreased by 87 percent in those getting the drug, Dupilumab, compared with those getting a placebo.

Other measures of lung function and disease control also improved, according to the study results, which were published online Tuesday in The New England Journal of Medicine and presented at the annual meeting of the American Thoracic Society in Philadelphia.

Dupilumab blocks the action of interleukin-4 and interleukin-13, two inflammatory chemicals made by the body that are believed to contribute to asthma. Sanofi and Regeneron say there are also preliminary

signs Dupilumab works against the skin condition atopic dermatitis, suggesting it can be blocking a biological pathway that contributes to multiple allergic conditions.

Still, much larger studies, taking at least two or three years, are likely to be needed before the drug could reach the market.

A commentary on the asthma study, also published in The New England Journal of Medicine on Tuesday, said it was "too early to tell if this therapy will be of clinical value,"

though it was "probably on the right path." After two decades of frustration, Regeneron, which is based in Tarrytown, N.Y., has become a major biotechnology company owing to booming sales of Eylea, its drug to treat age-related macular degeneration, an eye disease. Regeneron shares have roughly quintupled since the beginning of 2012. In midday trading Tuesday, however, they were down a little over 1 percent. An estimated 25 million Americans have asthma, and the disease

is not well controlled in 10 to 20 percent of them by the usual therapy, which consists of inhaled glucocorticoid steroids and long-acting beta agonists. The study involved 104 patients whose disease was not well controlled by existing medications and who had elevated levels of a type of immune system cell associated with problematic asthma. At first, the patients continued to take their existing medications while also getting weekly injections of either Dupilumab or placebo. □

Jennifer Lopez to open cellphone stores

PETER SVENSSON
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — “Jenny from the Block” wants the block to buy Verizon phones from her.

Singer and actress Jennifer Lopez on Wednesday announced she’s opening a chain of 15 cellphone stores and a website under the Viva Movil brand. The aim is to sell Verizon phones and services to Latinos.

The first store will open in New York on June 15, with others following in Los Angeles and Miami. The stores will have bilingual staff and provide a “culturally relevant shopping experience,” Viva Movil said.

Viva Movil will be an authorized Verizon reseller, with the same prices and plans as regular Verizon stores.

Lopez is the majority owner and “chief creative officer” of Viva Movil. She said Viva Movil and its Facebook

page will be a way for fans to connect with her.

“Latinos need a place to go and they need to be catered to because it is such a growing, growing demographic and market and people want to capture that, and they deserve to be catered to,” Lopez said in an interview.

Lopez is no stranger to business. She owns a film and television production company and has launched clothing and perfume lines. She said she wasn’t looking specifically to get into wireless — “it was just one of those things where you sit down with people and you start spitballing.” Marketing cellphone service specifically to Latinos has not been a winning formula so far in the U.S. One company targeting Spanish speakers, Movida Communications, raised \$40 million in 2007 and filed for



This Jan. 26, 2013 file photo released by Verizon Wireless shows singer Jennifer Lopez at the Verizon Wireless meet Jennifer Lopez Flyaway Contest in Santa Monica, Calif.

Associated Press

bankruptcy the following year. Most attempts to cater to Latinos have focused on low-cost, no-contract service. By partnering with Verizon, Lopez is hitching her business to a company

that’s focused on premium, contract-based service, backed by a top-rated wireless network. The U.S. wireless market does have a large but low-profile Latin American presence: Mexi-

can cellphone company America Movil owns Tracfone, the largest provider of no-contract service, with 23 million phones active. That service isn’t marketed specifically to Latinos. □

Twitter adds security measure to logins

NEW YORK (AP) — Twitter is adding an extra security measure to users’ accounts in an effort to prevent unauthorized logins.

Twitter said in a blog post Wednesday that users will be able to enroll in a login verification program. For those who sign up, Twitter will send a six-digit code using a text message each time they sign in to Twitter.com. Besides their username and password, users will have to enter the code as well to log in.

Microsoft Corp., Google Inc. and Facebook Inc. already allow two-step verification as an option. Twitter has been criticized for not having this option, especially following recent breaches of Twitter accounts belonging to major news organizations and other companies.

Unlike the other Internet companies, though, Twitter will ask users for a verification code each time they log out and log back in, even if it’s from the same computer. The others allow you to bypass that if



A view of an iPhone in Washington Tuesday, May 21, 2013, showing the Twitter and Facebook apps among others.

Associated Press

you are using the same computer regularly. Microsoft began offering two-step verification last month. Facebook and Google

have offered them longer. Twitter users can sign up for two-step verification under their account settings. To do this, Twitter will ask for

either a confirmed email address associated with the account or a phone number that’s been verified. Even as the two-step

verification process adds an extra security layer to Twitter logins, Twitter said users should still take common precautions. □

Stocks fade as Wall Street digests Fed minutes

BERNARD CONDON

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Federal Reserve took financial markets for a ride Wednesday, pushing stock prices up in the morning then sending them down in afternoon. Prices surged on congressional testimony by Fed chairman Ben Bernanke early in the day that suggested the central bank would not end its massive economic stimulus program any time soon. But then minutes of a Fed meeting were released suggesting the stimulus could be scaled back as early as next month if the economy picks up, and stocks began dropping fast.

The Fed minutes showed that some policymakers favored tapering a bond-buying program. That prompted traders to dump U.S. government bonds, sending their interest rates, or yields, higher.

The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note rose above 2 percent for the first time since March 14, to 2.03 percent from

interest rates low and encouraged investors to put money into stocks and other riskier assets instead of bonds. If the Fed slows

average ended the day down 80.41 points, or 0.5 percent, to 15,307.17. Earlier, the index had risen as much as 154 points after Bernanke started speaking to lawmakers.

"If you had any doubts about the influence of the Fed, you only have to look at the roller coaster that followed Bernanke's testimony this morning and the release to Fed minutes this afternoon," said David Kelly, chief global strategist at J.P. Morgan Funds.

The minutes of the April 30-May 1 meeting showed that "a number" of members expressed a willingness to scale back the Fed's bond purchases, perhaps as soon as June, if the economy accelerates. The Fed next meets June 18-19.

The Standard and Poor's 500 fell 13.81 points to 1,655.35, a decline of 0.8 percent.

Earlier in the day, Bernanke

had told lawmakers it was too soon for the central bank to pull back on its stimulus programs.

Investors were also encouraged by news that sales of previously occupied U.S. homes rose last month to the highest level in three and a half years.

"It's up, up and away," said Stephen Carl, head of stock trading at the Williams Capital Group, as stocks were soaring shortly after Bernanke stopped speaking. In addition to buying bonds, the Fed has been keeping short-term interest rates near zero to encourage people and businesses to borrow and spend more.

The Russell 2000 index of small-company stocks fell 16.52 points to 982.26, a loss of 1.7 percent.

The Nasdaq composite was down 38.82 points at 3,463.30, or 1 percent.

In addition to stimulus from the Fed, other factors have been pushing the stock market higher, including a rebounding housing market, a pickup in hiring and strong earnings at big U.S. companies. On Wednesday, S&P Capital IQ reported that earnings in S&P 500 companies had reached a quarterly record. Investors don't like when the Fed pulls back from stimulus policies and raised interest rates because it typically has slowed the economy, and has even led to recessions.

But JPMorgan's Kelly notes that when interest rates are very low like now, history suggests interest rates hikes won't hurt the stock market that much because it means the economy is getting stronger.

"I don't think that (higher) interest rates will prove bad for the stock market," he said. "But the stock market has been hypnotized into believing that the only thing keep it afloat is the Fed." Among stocks making big moves:

—Bristol-Myers Squibb jumped 5 percent, or \$2.34, to \$46.40 after a Citigroup analyst raised his rating on the drugmaker. □



Specialist John Urbanowicz, left, talks with a colleague on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Stocks opened Wednesday, May 22, 2013, slightly higher, but then closed down as investors digested the latest moves from the Federal Reserve.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

1.93 percent the day before.

The Fed is buying \$85 billion worth of bonds every month as part of its stimulus program. That has kept

down its bond purchases, investors fear, it could lead to an outpouring of money from the stock market and back into bonds.

The Dow Jones industrial

US home sales reach highest in 3½ years

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sales of previously occupied U.S. homes ticked up last month to the highest level in three and a half years, helped by a jump in the number of houses for sale. The National Association of Realtors said Wednesday that sales rose to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.97 million, up from 4.94 million in March.

Home sales have risen 9.7 percent in the past 12 months, evidence that the housing market is still improving. But sales have been roughly flat since November. The supply of available homes remains tight and many potential buyers aren't able to get loans.

The number of homes for sale rose 12 percent in April from March to 2.16 million. But inventory is still almost 14 percent lower than a year earlier.

The increase in inventories partly reflects the beginning of the spring sell-

ing season. The supply of homes would be exhausted in 5.2 months at the current sales pace. That's

supply has pushed up prices. The median price of a home for sale jumped 11 percent last month from



Sam and Liz Weidner, of Hudsonville, Mich., view a home for sale in Lowell, Mich. The National Association of Realtors reported on sales of previously occupied homes in April on Wednesday, May 22, 2013.

(AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

below the typical level of about six months.

More Americans are interested in purchasing homes: buyer traffic has risen 31 percent in the past year, the Realtors' group said.

Rising demand and tight

April 2012 to \$192,800. That's the highest in nearly five years. The median is the figure halfway between the highest and lowest number.

Higher prices could encourage more people to

sell homes, fueling further sales gains.

"Sellers want to sell in a rising market," said Jonathan Basile, an economist at Credit Suisse. "When more sellers come out and sell, they'll also have to buy."

The increase in prices partly reflects more sales of higher-priced homes. Sales of lower-priced homes are rising more slowly.

And sales of cheap foreclosed properties are falling. The proportion of distressed sales has fallen sharply in the past year, to 18 percent from 28 percent in April 2012. Distressed sales include foreclosed homes and homes in which the size of the mortgage exceeds the home's value. But first-time buyers made up only 29 percent of sales last month, the lowest proportion in more than 2 years.

That's well below the 40 percent typical in a healthy market and down from 35 percent a year ago. First-time buyers usually help drive healthy markets. □

Target's 1Q profit drops 26% on sales

A. D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Target Corp. reported a 26 percent drop in first-quarter profit as cool temperatures and financial pressures limited customers' appetite for spending.

The company, based in Minneapolis, also cut its annual profit outlook, sending its stock down in premarket trading.

Target is the latest in a string of companies including rival Wal-Mart Stores Inc. that underscore how weather and other pressures on lower- to middle-income shoppers hurt business in the first couple months of the year.

Still, Target, whose sales growth has been uneven since the recession, remains confident in its strategies to attract shoppers.

Target has reached out to customers with two big growth initiatives. It has been offering a larger selection of food and also a program, started in 2010, that gives shoppers a 5 percent discount when they pay with Target-branded credit and debit cards.

At the same time, Target continues to team up with new designers for limited-time partnerships. Earlier this month, Target announced its latest designer collaboration, with Phillip Lim. The collection is due out in September.

Last year, Target expanded into urban markets using smaller versions of its big-box stores in Seattle, Los Angeles and Chicago. Target also started to expand into Canada earlier this year, its first foray outside the U.S. The company is opening the stores in waves that should add up to about 125 stores at locations once owned by Canadian retailer Zellers by the end of the year.

"Target's first-quarter earnings were below expectations as a result of softer-than-expected sales, particularly in apparel and other seasonal and weather-sensitive categories. □

Bernanke signals Fed to maintain stimulus

MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Chairman Ben Bernanke told Congress Wednesday that the U.S. job market remains weak and that it is too soon for the Federal Reserve to slow its extraordinary stimulus programs.

Reducing the Fed's efforts to keep borrowing rates low would "carry a substantial risk of slowing or ending the economic recovery," Bernanke said in testimony to the Joint Economic Committee, a panel that includes members of the House and Senate.

The Fed has been buying \$85 billion a month in Treasury and mortgage bonds since September. That has helped lower long-term interest rates and encouraged more borrowing and spending. Lawmakers pressed Bernanke to explain when the Fed might start to scale back its purchases. Bernanke said the pace could be reduced over the next few meetings, if the job market shows "real and sustainable progress." And he wouldn't rule out curtailing the purchases by Labor Day (early September).

But Bernanke said that the Fed could just as quickly reverse course and pick up the pace if the economy falters. Most of Bernanke's testimony focused

on the many risks facing the economy, along with the benefits gained so far from the Fed's stimulus. His comments suggest the Fed

Stocks surged immediately after Bernanke began speaking at 10 a.m. But they gradually fell during Bernanke's testimony



Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, May 22, 2013, before the Joint Economic Committee hearing on "The Economic Outlook".

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

is not ready to taper the bond purchases.

Minutes of the Fed's April 30-May 1 meeting show "a number" of members expressed a willingness to scale back the bond purchases as early as June — if the economy showed strong and sustained growth. But those officials appeared at odds over what evidence would demonstrate such gains, according to the minutes released Wednesday.

The Fed next meets on June 18-19.

and then turned negative in the afternoon. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 33 points shortly after the minutes were released at 2 p.m. (1800 GMT). Paul Ashworth, an economist at Capital Economics, said Bernanke's remarks suggest "he is in no hurry to curb" the bond purchases. Ashworth predicts the central bank will begin to trim the bond purchases toward the end of the year and end them completely in the first half of 2014.

At the hearing, Bernanke

declined to answer a direct question about whether he would consider serving another four-year term when his current term ends in January. The Fed has said it plans to continue its \$85 billion-a-month in Treasury and mortgage bond purchases until the job market improves substantially. And after its April 30-May 1 meeting, the Fed said it could increase or decrease the pace depending on how the job market and inflation fare.

Bernanke noted that the economy is growing moderately this year and unemployment has fallen to a four-year low of 7.5 percent. Still, unemployment remains well above levels consistent with healthy economies. And Bernanke said higher taxes and deep federal spending cuts are expected to slow economic growth this year.

In recent months, the job market and the broader economy have shown renewed vigor. The economy has added an average of 208,000 jobs a month since November. That's up from only 138,000 a month in the previous six months.

The economy has benefited from a resurgent housing market, rising consumer confidence and the Fed's stimulus actions, which have helped ignite a stock market rally. □

Sony mulls hedge fund's division sale idea

ELAINE KURTENBACH

AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Sony's CEO Kazuo Hirai says the electronics giant's board will discuss a proposal by U.S. hedge fund manager Daniel Loeb to spin off up to 20 percent of its movie, TV and music division.

Hirai was asked about the proposal at a corporate strategy presentation Wednesday. He did not give a timetable for a decision, and would not give his own opinion about the suggestion raised by Loeb, who is CEO of hedge fund Third Point LLC.

"This will be deliberated by the board and we will come up with a response," Hirai told reporters. "We have only just begun to study this." Loeb said money from the sale could be used to shore up Sony's ailing electronics manufacturing unit. Hirai said Sony Corp. did not believe Loeb was proposing that Sony make its entertainment business a separate entity, but wants to make that part of the company public.

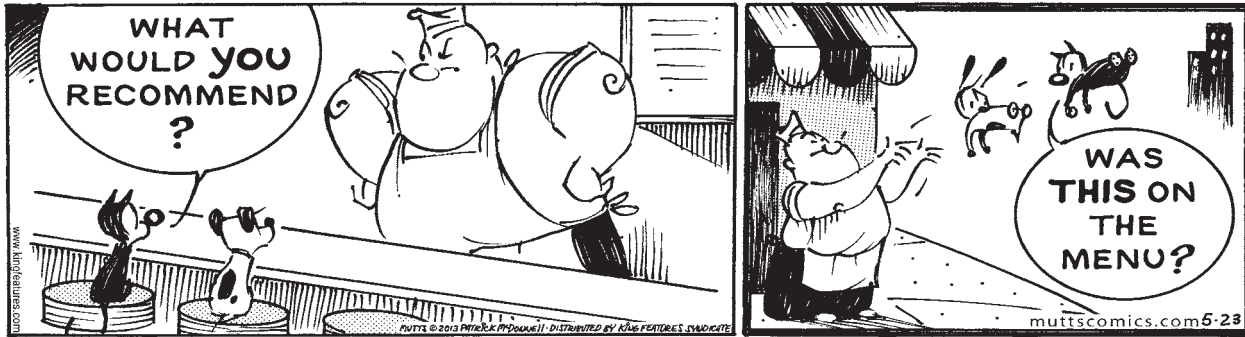
"It is an important proposal from our shareholder," Hirai said. "We want a construc-

tive dialogue at all times with our shareholders."

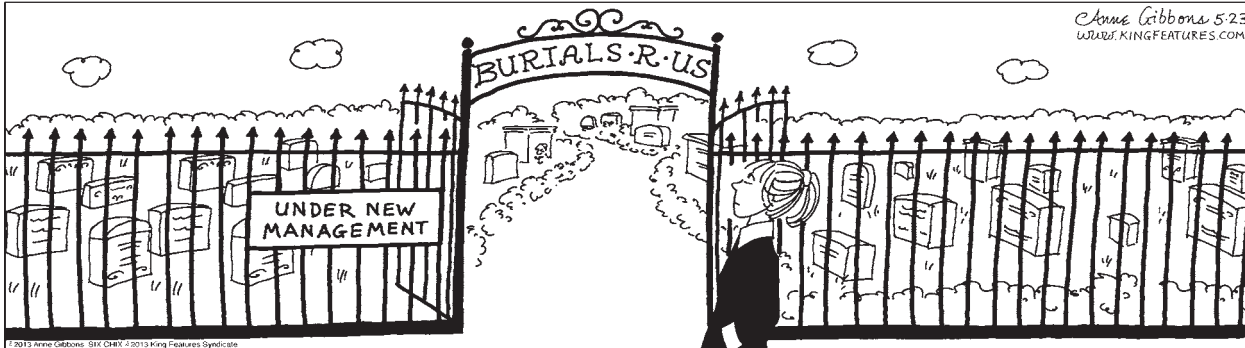
Sony initially responded to Loeb by saying its entertainment business was not for sale, though some analysts said the strategy might help Sony unlock value from its wealth of audio and video content. Sony has fallen behind powerful rivals such as Apple Inc. and Samsung Electronics Co. in profitability and innovation. Hirai, who took over as Sony's president a year ago, outlined various plans for revitalizing Sony's electronics business, focusing on mobile devices,

imaging and games. The company intends to return its TV business to profitability by promoting more expensive large-screen TVs. It will focus on cameras and other imaging products that have "value-added" technology such as image sensors and higher-powered zooms. Sony reported its first net profit in five years for the fiscal year that ended in March. Hirai has sought to reinvigorate the once dominant electronics maker by tapping into what he calls Sony's DNA, and ensuring all its products have "wow." □

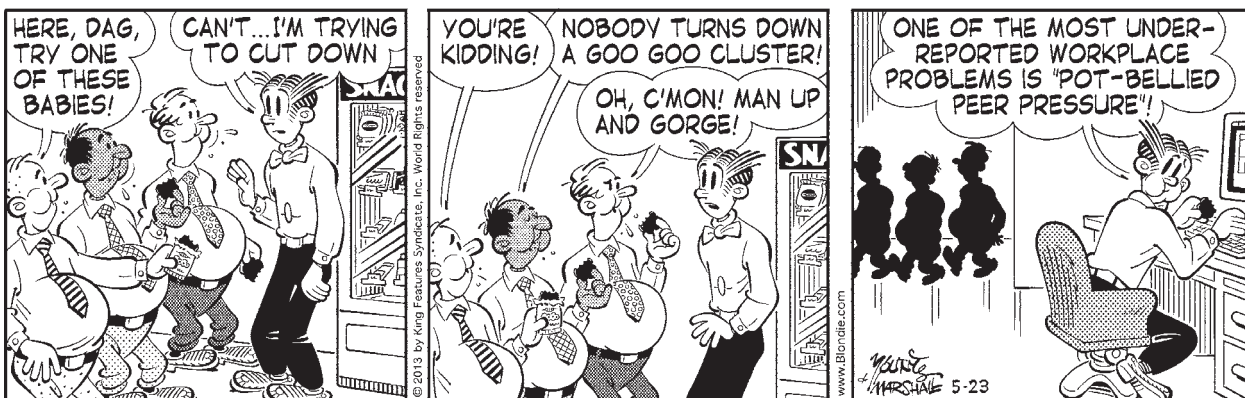
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



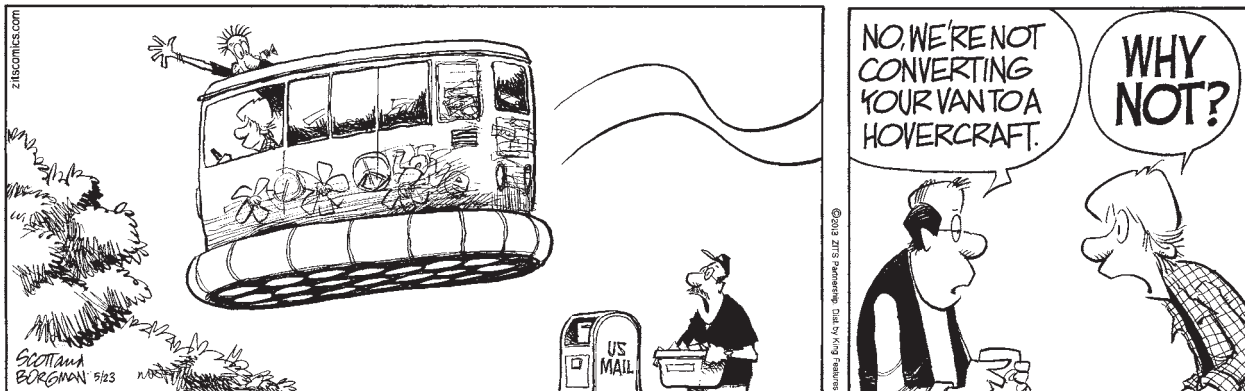
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		4		2		7		
8	5		6				1	3
			7	1		5		
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9	1				3		7	5
		2		9		3		

Difficulty Level ★★★

5/23

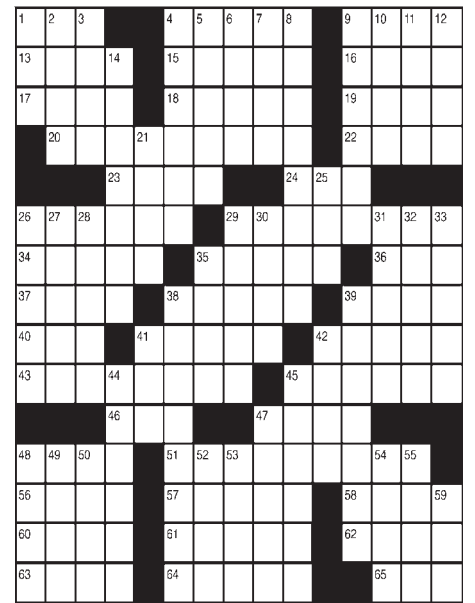
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

9	1	4	3	6	5	8	2	7
3	2	5	4	7	8	1	9	6
7	8	6	2	1	9	3	4	5
6	3	8	7	9	2	4	5	1
1	5	9	8	4	3	6	7	2
2	4	7	6	5	1	9	3	8
8	7	3	9	2	6	5	1	4
5	9	2	1	8	4	7	6	3
4	6	1	5	3	7	2	8	9

ACROSS

- Tip of a drill
- Furious
- Lunch spot
- Extremely dry
- Caffè __; order at Starbucks
- Large kitchen appliance
- Singer Tennille
- Wild felines
- Watermelon's outer layer
- Careless
- Chances
- __ Hashanah; Jewish new year
- Get first prize
- Oration
- Posters; signs
- Lock horns
- Tinker Bell, for one
- Not at home
- Feingold or Tamlyn
- Fastened an old corset
- Sound of mind
- Dined
- Went public with
- Spoof; parody
- Thick syrup
- Single bite
- Obese
- Deceased
- Mark from an old wound
- Adorn
- Ripped
- Unsuspecting
- Fastener meant for hammering
- Play divisions
- Actor __ Albert
- Jealousy
- Lavish party
- Film holders
- Look at



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/23/13

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

DONOR	FLAB	ROPE
ABODE	IOTA	EVER
RENEW	GOES	TEAR
EYESIGHT	SCARCE	
	SNIT	MERITED
ARMADA	TOTAL	
DOE	SNARL	BEACH
DAMS	TREED	RILE
SNOOP	EASEL	MUM
	NOMAD	MASSSES
STRIKES	HORA	
IRONED	TANGIBLE	
FOUL	APES	ELLEN
TOGA	LEAN	SOUND
SPEW	SALT	TRESS

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5/23/13

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 41 As cool __ cucumber | 50 Carney and Linkletter |
| 42 Baby horse | 52 Manufactured |
| 44 Once more | 53 __ one's time; wait |
| 45 Big brawls | 54 Without |
| 47 Satan | 55 Bee colony |
| 48 Puncture | 59 Caustic soap ingredient |
| 49 Comic actress Imogene __ | |

DOWN

- Blind as a __
- Pump __; lift weights
- Fork prong
- Mischiefous

- Not smooth
- High point
- Other __; besides
- Toward the Orient
- Ring of light around a celestial body
- Very eager
- __ off; deflect
- Discontinues
- Go off topic
- Scotland's __ Lomond
- Like slippery winter roads
- "Beat it!"
- Disney dog
- Portrait holder
- Walks the floor
- Told a fib
- Lion's cries
- Dummy
- Iron alloy
- Rider's fee
- One who's all ears
- Canned fish

Gibraltar moves closer to soccer independence

JAMES MONTAGUE

© 2013 New York Times

GIBRALTAR – The United States and the Soviet Union boycotted each other's

tional sports.

Spain has gone so far as to threaten to remove its marquee clubs like Real Madrid and Barcelona from

cember about resistance to Gibraltar's membership in European soccer's governing body, the government provided a written

the dispute.

"Over there we have the world and European champions," the coach, Allen Bula, said, pointing to the border between Gibraltar and Spain about a third of a mile away. "I would play them any day, any time, anywhere, anyhow."

"The Spanish have stopped us from joining UEFA for political reasons and haven't let us progress," Bula added. □



Gibraltar's under-17 national soccer team practices before a match against Northern Ireland in Gibraltar, March 22, 2013. Spain, Gibraltar's neighbor, has threatened to remove its marquee clubs like Real Madrid and Barcelona from European competition if Gibraltar, a British territory, is acknowledged as an independent soccer-playing country by the UEFA.

(Samuel Aranda/The New York Times)

Olympics during the Cold War. The United Nations used sports to take a stand against South Africa during apartheid. The latest flash point of sports and international politics: Gibraltar, the tiny tip of the Iberian Peninsula that for centuries has endured as a tug of war between Spain and Britain.

The current dispute centers on the Gibraltar soccer team, an unlikely collection of amateur players who are generally considered past their athletic prime. But Gibraltar is not aiming to become a soccer powerhouse, at least any time soon. Gibraltar would just like its soccer team to be recognized by the sport's various governing bodies, and perhaps one day to compete in the World Cup. But Spain, the big next-door neighbor that happens to be the reigning World Cup champion, objects. Gibraltar is a territory that should not stand on its own, in soccer or otherwise, Spain argues.

The issue has stirred one of the most volatile, if obscure, disputes in interna-

European competition if Gibraltar is acknowledged as an independent soccer-playing country. UEFA, European soccer's governing body, which was forced to admit Gibraltar as a provisional member last year, will decide whether to make it a full member at the organization's annual congress Friday.

"Gibraltar is still in the back of the Spanish mind," said Jose Maria Carrascal, author of "La Batalla de Gibraltar," or "The Battle of Gibraltar."

"For the older generation it is a big issue, and the youngest generation, I feel, are discovering it again. We have a colony on our soil."

In a written response to a politician's inquiry in De-

statement: "The government will continue opposing by all legal means to admit the Gibraltar Football Association as a full member of UEFA. The government will continue opposing holding competitions between the official sports teams of Spain and the combined sports of the colony of Gibraltar."

The Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the office of the prime minister declined to be interviewed. The government agency in charge of sports said only that the issue was being dealt with at "the highest diplomatic level."

At a recent practice under floodlights at Victoria Stadium here, the coach of Gibraltar's national soccer team tried to summarize

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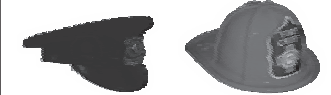
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Study: Most shipwrecks a minor U.S. pollution threat

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Shipwrecks lying deep off America's coasts are more often historical artifacts than present-day threats from leaking old oil tanks, a new federal report says.

While 87 of the ships — most sunk during World War II by German submarines — have the potential to leak tens of millions of gallons of oil, the report issued Monday concludes that "the scope of the problem is much more manageable than initially feared."

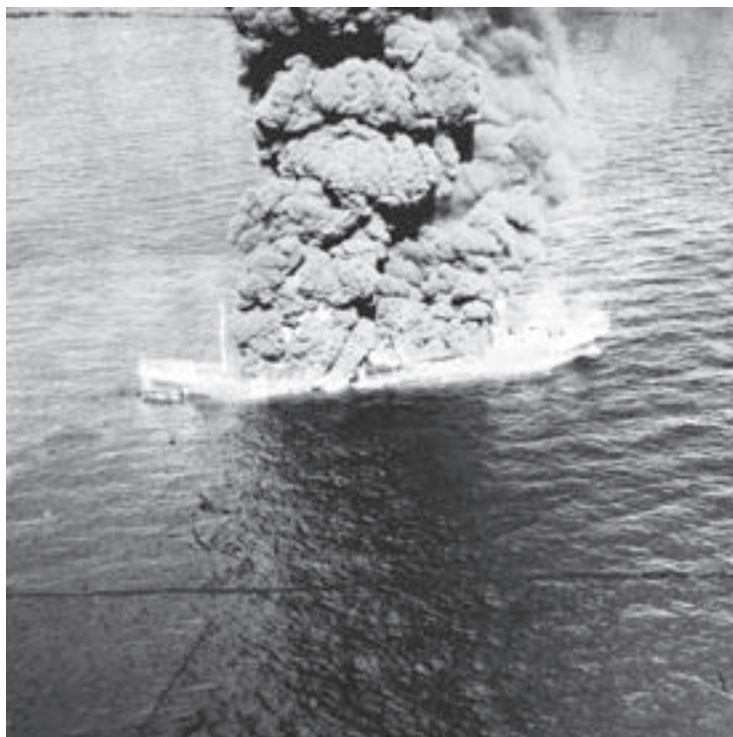
"Our coastlines are not littered with 'ticking time bombs,'" government scientists wrote. They note that only six of the 87 are likely to be serious enough to be disasters to local economies and coastlines, the report said.

Still the wrecks are hulking reminders of lost lives in war and the environmental mess of oil, especially to Frank Terry, who experienced them firsthand.

The first of two German torpedoes hit the oil tanker ship W.D. Anderson as it steamed along the Florida coast one late February night in 1942. Terry ran to the side, hurled himself over the railing and into the water. His boat was in flames and the 23-year-old was swimming for his life.

"I just wanted to get out of there," he recalled Monday from his home in Parkesburg, Pennsylvania Days after the sinking 15 miles off southeast Florida, Terry wrote in an account for The Associated Press: "I saw the ship go up in flames while I raced from death as the burning oil spread over the water."

He bumped into dead



This May, 14, 1942, U. S. Army Air Corps photograph, provided by the National Archives, College Park, Md., shows the burning tanker Potrero del Llano, a Mexican ship heading to New York that was sunk on May 14, 1942 by a German U-boat, about 15 miles southeast of Miami's Biscayne Bay.

Associated Press

bodies in the tainted water. A spotlight bore down on him. He figured it was the German U-boat, so he ducked. But he had to come back up to breathe. American voices yelled to him and American arms tried to pull him aboard. But Terry was coated in oil and he slipped away from rescue at first.

Eventually, Terry was hauled aboard, hosed down, and the next day in the hospital he found out he was the sole survivor.

And now, 71 years later, the federal report says Terry's old ship is not only one of the 87, it is one of the six likely worst cases. It's a gravesite for 35 souls, but also a potential despoiler of the tourist-dependent Florida coast because it may still have more than 5.6 million gallons of crude

oil on board. Jupiter is the nearest city.

The overall picture, though, is not as bad as expected. The potential for pollution from the 87 shipwrecks is less than half the 200 million gallons the BP well spewed into the Gulf of Mexico in 2010 in that disaster, agency officials calculate.

There are about 20,000 shipwrecked vessels off the nation's coastlines. Most of those either finished leaking long ago, ran on coal instead of oil, are too small or aren't near U.S. vulnerable land.

"There are only six that really keep me up at night, but we don't know where they all really are," said Lisa Symons of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, who wrote the study. Those six have the biggest potential to be coastal pollution problems because even if they do spill only 10 percent of their

oil, they could cause what could be a local-scale disaster, she said. They don't have to be a worst-case spill to be a disaster.

Symons said NOAA doesn't know the exact location of all of them, just where they were last seen before they sank.

Three of the six worst potential problems are off Florida: the one near Jupiter, one 25 miles north of the Florida Keys, and another south of the Keys. Another is 100 miles (160 kilometers) southeast of Savannah, Georgia; 50 miles east of Charleston, South Carolina and 60 miles (96 kilometers) north of Montauk Point, New York.

Of the 87 ships identified as potential polluters by NOAA, 52 were lost in World War II, up and down the Atlantic coastline.

Others were lost in crashes, fires and storms, including the Edmund Fitzgerald. That ship's sinking in Lake Superior was turned into a classic 1970s ballad. That ship and another aren't even in U.S. waters but are close enough they can pollute American waters, NOAA officials said.

Given that some vessels can't be found and others aren't as big a threat, NOAA has identified 17 ships that have a known location and that need

to be investigated further to see if the oil could be removed. Removing oil in advance, before it leaks, is far easier than waiting till after it spills into the water, Symons said.

The report is more than about potential pollution, said Jim Delgado, director of marine heritage for NOAA. He said, looking at these wrecks, he was struck by "the incredible human stories wrapped up in these ships."

One ship not on the list, but a potential oil pollution threat, is the USS Arizona, the battleship sunk at Pearl Harbor. Symons said it is now a National Park Service monument and that agency and the U.S. Coast Guard are monitoring it for major leaks.

The Arizona leaks oil every day, Symons said, adding that some people call them "sailors' tears."

Next month, NOAA will examine the W.D. Anderson to see if it can or should be drained of oil, but they will be careful since it is a gravesite for 35 people, Symons said.

Terry, the ship's sole survivor is conflicted.

"I have friends in there," he said, but added that removing oil from the ship is "a very good idea. For one, it would give me closure. I don't sleep at night."□

Sally Ride to get posthumous Medal of Freedom

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama will bestow the Medal of Freedom posthumously on Sally Ride, the first American woman to fly in space. Obama says Ride was a role model to young women and showed that

achievement has no limits. He says Ride advocated for innovation in science, engineering and math. Ride rode on the space shuttle Challenger on June 18, 1983. She died in July 2012 at 61 after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. Ride broke another barrier by disclosing that she was gay at the end of an obituary she co-wrote with her same-sex partner before her death. The White House says Ride's partner was notified last week of the award along with her mother and sister. The award will be presented later this year.□

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Blake Shelton plans Oklahoma benefit show

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Blake Shelton and NBC are putting together a benefit for Oklahoma tornado victims. Shelton told reporters about the fundraising effort after Tuesday night's episode of "The Voice." Shelton, an Oklahoma native, paid tribute to the thousands affected by Sunday and Monday's tornadoes by performing an acoustic version of the hit "Over You" with wife Miranda Lambert. He said the benefit would be held soon in nearby Oklahoma City. At least 24 people, including nine schoolchildren, were killed Monday afternoon in Moore, Oklahoma, when an F-5 tornado with 200 mph (320 kph) winds touched down for 40 minutes and destroyed entire neighborhoods.



Blake Shelton arrives at "The Voice" season 4 red carpet event at the House of Blues on Wednesday, May 8, 2013 in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Toby Keith, a native of Moore, also is planning a benefit. His sister's house was hit by the tornado. More details about both fundraising efforts will be released later. □

Aretha Franklin taking June off, postponing shows

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Aretha Franklin is taking off the month of June. A spokesman for the 71-year-old singer says Franklin will reschedule two shows and resume her touring schedule in July. Publicist David Brokaw provided no other details Tuesday. Franklin announced earlier this month that she would cancel scheduled performances in Chicago and Connecticut this week to undergo medical treatment. She did not specify what type of treatment she was receiving. Franklin appeared on the season finale of "American Idol" last week via satellite, singing a medley of her hits with the show's female finalists. □



In this July 25, 2012 file photo, Aretha Franklin performs at the NOKIA Theatre L.A. LIVE, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Obama honors Carole King at White House concert

Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama saluted Carole King's five decades as an award-winning singer-songwriter, calling her a "living legend." Obama presented King with this year's Gershwin Prize for Popular Song, an award given by the Library of Congress. She is the first woman so honored and joins a list of recipients that includes Paul McCartney, Stevie Wonder and Paul Simon. "I can't say it enough. I am so excited," the 71-year-old King said. She accepted the honor on behalf of the co-writers who worked on some of her songs, a massive portfolio that includes such hits as "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman" and "You've Got a Friend." Several friends from King's decades in the music business performed in her honor, including Gloria Estefan, Billy Joel, Jesse McCartney, Emeli Sande, James Taylor and Trisha Yearwood. King's breakout 1971 album "Tapestry" remains one of the best-selling re-



President Barack Obama presents the Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song during an East Room concert honoring singer-songwriter Carole King, Wednesday, May 22, 2013, at the White House in Washington. King is the first woman to receive the award.

Associated Press

cords of all time. It is the first female solo album to reach Diamond status, surpassing 10 million copies sold. The album included No. 1s "It's Too Late" and "I Feel the Earth Move," as well as "You've Got a Friend" recorded by Taylor. It was the first album by a female artist to win all the top Grammy awards — for record, song and album of the year, along with the Grammy for best pop vocal performance.

"And as one of the best-selling albums of all-time, it cemented Carole's status as one of the most influential singer-songwriters that America has ever seen," Obama said. More than 1,000 artists have recorded hundreds of King's songs, including The Beatles, Mary J. Blige, Cher, Phil Collins, Aretha Franklin, Barbra Streisand and many others. In 1990, she was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. □

Piers Morgan writing book about life at CNN



This May 7, 2013 file photo shows Piers Morgan at the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence Los Angeles Gala in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Piers Morgan is going behind the scenes. The host of CNN's "Piers Morgan Live" has a deal

with Gallery Books for "Shooting Straight: Guns, Gays, God, and George Clooney." Gallery, an imprint of Simon & Schuster,

announced Wednesday that the book is scheduled for October. Morgan, in a statement issued by Gallery, promised a "warts and all" account of life at CNN and said the book would be like "'The Newsroom' on steroids," referring to the HBO series.

According to Gallery, the book will be written in the style of a real-time look into headline stories such as the killing of Osama bin Laden and the school shootings in Newtown, Connecticut.

Morgan used a similar diary format for his 2005 book "The Insider," which detailed his years in British journalism. □

Douglas, Damon dramatize a steamy show-biz affair

FRAZIER MOORE

AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The idea of Michael Douglas playing Liberace might seem nearly as outrageous as Liberace himself.

Liberace, forever hailed as “Mr. Showmanship,” was the excess-to-the-max pianist-personality whose onstage and offstage extravagance were legendary, and who wowed audiences in Las Vegas and worldwide to become the best-paid entertainer on the planet during his heyday from the 1950s to the 1970s.

He was the forerunner of flashy, gender-bender entertainers like Elton John, David Bowie, Madonna and Lady Gaga even as he kept a tight lid on his gay private life, which he feared could have ended his career had it come out. (His fans never seemed to get wise.)

By contrast, Michael Douglas is a 68-year-old movie star known for he-man performances and morally ambiguous roles. And he was no piano player.

But Douglas now dazzles as Liberace in the new HBO film, “Behind the Candelabra,” including lavish musical numbers where he tinkles the ivories and flourishes his jewel-and-ermine finery. The film (executive produced by show-biz veteran Jerry Weintraub, a Liberace friend) premieres Sunday at 9 p.m. EDT.

Douglas’ co-star is Matt



This film image released by HBO shows Michael Douglas, left, as Liberace, and Matt Damon, as Scott Thorson in a scene from “Behind the Candelabra,” premiering Sunday at 9 p.m. EDT on HBO. Associated Press

Damon, who, in a casting choice almost as counter-intuitive, plays Scott Thorson, a dreamy, strapping teen who in 1977 met Liberace in his Vegas dressing room and almost instantly became his personal assistant, live-in companion and top-secret lover.

“Candelabra” (whose title cites the trademark prop ornamenting his onstage piano) also features Dan Aykroyd, Scott Bakula, Paul Reiser, Debbie Reynolds and a hilarious turn by Rob Lowe as Liberace’s on-call plastic surgeon.

It was the film’s director, Steven Soderbergh, who brought together the two lead actors, helped shape their splendid performanc-

es and masterminded this portrait of a loving but bizarre and tempestuous affair.

This show-biz saga may be over-the-top, but there’s plenty of depth and it dives deep.

“We played the script and tried not to wink at the audience,” said Douglas. “It’s a great love story. I watch it and I forget about Matt and myself. Then, pretty soon, I practically forget it’s two guys: The conversations and arguments sound like any ol’ couple.”

Adds Damon in a separate interview: “The question for us was, How do we make this look like a marriage that we recognize? Most of our scenes we could relate

to because we’re both in long-term marriages. It was a male-female story with two guys.”

Well, maybe. But that doesn’t override the risk factor for Douglas and Damon as they tackled roles dramatically at odds with their images and past work.

“I looked at Matt and thought, ‘Man, this guy’s brave,’” said Douglas. “It’s one thing for me at my age to stretch a little bit and try different characters. But ‘Bourne’! A man in the prime of his career going this route?! I was in awe of Matt’s courage.”

“He’s being nice,” laughed Damon, 42, when told what Douglas had said.

“He would’ve done it in a second! He’d never turn down a great role.”

Why did Damon say yes to man-to-man pillow talk and sequined thongs?

“I’ve never said no to Steven,” he replied, noting he had worked with Soderbergh before in “The Informant!” and the “Ocean” trilogy. “It doesn’t get any more fun than working with Steven.”

Douglas, too, had been in Soderbergh films — including the 2000 thriller “Traffic,” during whose production the director first proposed Douglas playing Liberace. Why did he agree?

“First of all, Lee was a nice guy,” Douglas began, calling Liberace by the given name he never used professionally. “He was a lovely, lovely guy. I don’t play many nice guys.”

Douglas nails Liberace’s velvety, nasal voice and almost-ever-present pearly smile. “One of the things I enjoyed about this part was, I got to smile,” he said. “I don’t smile a lot in my pictures. I’m always so ... grim.”

Still, in “Candelabra,” there isn’t always lots to smile about.

Thorson, a child of foster care, falls sway to Liberace’s charm and support, but it comes with a price. He is subjected to plastic surgery to mold him into a young Liberace (one of the remarkable makeup transformations Damon undergoes). □



Hunter Davies, Beatles biographer with a manuscript of the lyrics to “In My Life”, during a photocall to announce a major Beatles acquisition for the British Library at the British Library in London Wednesday May 22, 2013.

Associated Press

Beatles’ lyrics headed for British Library

GREGORY KATZ
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Shakespeare, the Magna Carta — and now some of John Lennon’s finest lyrics.

The British Library on Wednesday added substantially to its already formidable collection with handwritten lyrics to Beatles’ classics “Strawberry Fields Forever”, “She Said She Said” and “In My Life.” Although these three songs are legally credited to Lennon and band mate Paul McCartney, the wistful, evocative lyrics are primar-

ily associated with Lennon. The manuscripts and a number of Lennon’s letters were donated to the library by Hunter Davies, a Beatles biographer with longtime connections to the Fab Four.

“The British Library is the perfect home for it,” he said of his unmatched Beatles collection.

The library already had some rare Beatles material on display, including some scrawled partial lyrics to earlier songs written on hotel stationery during the band’s tours.

The new material, however, catches the band near the height of its creative powers, with Lennon’s haunting lyrics often offset by McCartney’s sunnier take on life.

The foreboding “Strawberry Fields Forever” captures Lennon’s ruminations about their childhood home of Liverpool, while McCartney’s “Penny Lane” — the flip side of the single record — offers a much more cheerful take on the city of their youth.

Davies said he is pleased the unique collection will

be kept together and put on public display. Library chief executive Roly Keating said the existing Beatles’ material in the library’s Treasures Gallery already draws throngs.

“Visitors from all over the world are thrilled to see such legendary lyrics in their very earliest draft form,” he said.

In exchange for the gift, Davies will receive a reduction in his tax liability. Handwritten lyrics by the band have recently sold for hundreds of thousands of dollars. □

Serving Up Schlock



MAUREEN DOWD
© 2013 New York Times

Networks are generally leery of shows that are set in the past. TV executives think younger viewers don't care about history. And they're always on the hunt for the younger demo, working on the mistaken premise that millennials buy more and change brands more often than profligate and fickle baby boomers. Or maybe networks are simply operating on the same notion that drives romance and commerce: The more elusive the prize, the more it's worth.

It's funny that networks are afraid of the past, given that they're stuck in it. What Paddy Chayefsky could do with that paradox. It turns out that Washington isn't the only place where ideas come to die.

TV honchos cling to outmoded programming traditions even as many younger Americans, gorging on a movable feast of platforms, are losing the habit of turning on the TV, and even as top talent peels off to enjoy the freedom of cable and imaginative hubs like Amazon, Hulu, YouTube and Netflix, which is cracking with "House of Cards" and a fresh season of "Arrested Development." Networks still prefer to play it safe with likable characters, not darker ones like Tony Soprano, Walter White, Don Draper, Nicholas Brody and face-chewing zombies. Watching the derivative and uninspiring fare served up last week by the networks during their previews to woo advertisers, I was flummoxed at the lack of creativity and modernity. Rod Serling had more originality on a sick day than all the networks' high-priced talent combined.

Serling once complained that TV drama "must walk tiptoe and in agony lest it offend some cereal buyer from a given state below the Mason-Dixon." But the networks of the 21st century don't seem hungry to push the envelope, despite their ever-shrinking audiences.

I asked one media big shot what he watches. He replied, "Hemlock," "Breaking Bad" and "Mad Men" — all cable hits — failing to mention any of his own network's shows. Then why, I wondered, can't networks show more verve? "They're enslaved to tradition," he said. "It's silly. They should be bolder and more aggressive, edgier and sexier, but there's a lot of timidity."

So NBC, which some weeks finished last behind Univision, offers us Blair Underwood in "Ironside," a remake of its old series with Raymond Burr; Minnie Driver in "About a Boy," a redo of the movie based on Nick Hornby's novel;

James Spader in "The Blacklist" as yet another variation on Hannibal Lecter, a suave criminal mastermind strapped to a chair who will only cooperate with the FBI if he works with a young, pretty female agent; and Jonathan Rhys Meyers in "Dracula," which doesn't really count as new blood.

Judd Apatow and Kristen Wiig turned Melissa McCarthy into an outsize star in the movie "Bridesmaids," so naturally lots of writers raced to produce pilots with plus-size women straining to be funny. Rebel Wilson, the talented, heavyset Aussie actress who played Wiig's obnoxious roommate in "Bridesmaids," will star in ABC's "Super Fun Night," about three nerdy girlfriends who aim for madcap Friday nights.

"Back in the Game" is about a young blonde who joins a beer-guzzling former baseball player in coaching an underdog Little League team. "Bad News Bears" redux. "Resurrection" is about dead relatives popping up on the doorstep — zombies with better skin.

At least ABC passed on "Westside," Romeo and, like, Juliet set in Venice, Calif., and "Middle Age Rage," which the network describes as "a middle-aged mother who is fed up with feeling invisible and begins to speak and demand the respect she feels she's earned."

CBS proffers "Reckless," described as a sultry legal show set in Charleston, S.C., with a comely Yankee litigator clashing over a police scandal with a Southern city attorney "as they struggle to hide their intense attraction." I saw this when the city attorney was a New Orleans cop and it was called "The Big Easy," starring Ellen Barkin and Dennis Quaid. CBS has "Bad Teacher," based on the 2011 Cameron Diaz movie, and "Friends With Better Lives," the plot of which sounds just like the 2006 Nicole Holofcener movie, "Friends With Money." (CBS probably felt brave passing on a third "NCIS.") The one retreat that might have been fun, "Beverly Hills Cop," with Eddie Murphy himself dropping by in guest spots, CBS passed on.

Fox has "Enlisted," a wacky comedy about three brothers in the Army in Florida, which smacks of Bill Murray, Harold Ramis and John Candy in "Stripes," even down to what sounds like the same music. J.J. Abrams' "Almost Human" looks like a hand-me-down blend of "RoboCop" and "Blade Runner." Even Fox's freshest ideas are antique: a show about a hunky Ichabod Crane called "Sleepy Hollow" and "24" with Kiefer Sutherland, but this time squeezed into 12 episodes.

Doing a comedy turn at the ABC upfronts at Lincoln Center, Jimmy Kimmel mocked the advertisers for spending billions on dated dreckitude, noting that he also had a few things for sale: "This is an H.P. printer, inkjet color copier — \$20, no power cord," and "I've got three parrot cages available — make me an offer."

He had the most trenchant comment about the quality of the new season's pilots, slyly observing: "One of the shows previewed today was written by a third-grade class. Your challenge tonight is to figure out which one it was." □



One School's Catholic Teaching



FRANK BRUNI
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COLUMBUS, Ohio — No one at the Catholic high school that fired Carla Hale in March claimed that she was anything less than a terrific physical education teacher and coach, devoted to the kids and adored by many of them.

No one accused her of bringing her personal life into the gym or onto the fields. By nature she's private. And she loved her job too much to risk it that way. But she lost it nonetheless, and the how is as flabbergasting as the why is infuriating.

Rather suddenly, her mother died, and an hour afterward, she and her brother numbly went through the paces of a standard obituary, listing survivors. Her brother included his wife. So Carla included her partner, Julie, whom her mother had known well and loved. Leaving Julie out would have been unthinkable, though Carla didn't really think it through at the time. Her grief was still raw.

A parent of one of the school's students spotted the obituary and wrote an anonymous letter to the school and to the Diocese of Columbus, saying that they couldn't allow a woman like Carla to educate Catholic children.

So they don't, not anymore. In a termination notice, the principal explained that Carla's "spousal

relationship violates the moral laws of the Catholic Church." That was the sum of the stated grievance against her, and after more than 18 years at Bishop Waterson High School, Carla, 57, was done. "The way it all came about was just so unfathomable," she told me Sunday. "An obituary?" I met her and Julie, 48, in their house outside Columbus, where the front lawn was neatly tended, the refrigerator was plastered with photos of relatives, the chocolate lab dozed in his reserved spot on the sectional and Carla kept a box of tissues handy. Whenever she's asked what her work meant to her, she cries.

"Every morning," she said, "from the time you walked into the building, kids would be yelling down the hall, 'Hey, Miss Hale, what are we going to do today?' 'Hey, Miss Hale, I remembered those shoes.' It felt so comforting." She had a sense of belonging. Of purpose. Even now, after nearly two months of exile from the school, she's still on what she calls "bell time." If the clock on her kitchen wall says 10:45 a.m., the voice in her head says, "Fourth period."

There's so much in the media, and in this column, about the progress of gay rights, especially on the marriage front. But in the republic of Georgia just days ago, Orthodox priests led thousands of people in an anti-gay attack. In Greenwich Village, a young gay man was fatally shot in what's been deemed a hate crime.

And at a kitchen table here in central Ohio, a typically cheerful woman dabbed her eyes and wondered aloud what she'd done wrong.

The answer is in one sense simple: She made a life with another woman. While the Catholic Church doesn't condemn homosexuality per se, it considers any physical expression of it sinful. And Carla's "public declaration of an extramarital relationship," meaning the obituary, indicated that she was flouting Catholic tenets

and thus breaching her contract, according to a statement the diocese emailed me.

But things get complicated when you consider the selectiveness of the church's outrage, the capriciousness of its mercy.

Until public exposure shamed them, many church leaders protected priests whose sexual transgressions involved minors and were criminal.

Church leaders tolerate teachers at Catholic schools who are married with no kids or with few. Some are surely using artificial birth control, which the church officially opposes.

Besides which, Carla was guiding students through situps, not psalms. The school hired her though she's Methodist, not Catholic.

She was then married to a man, but they split and, more than a decade ago, she became involved with Julie.

Perhaps six colleagues met Julie over the years, though they probably weren't the only ones aware of Carla's sexual orientation.

"I'm sure it was surmised: gym teacher, divorced, short hair, didn't have a bow in it," Carla said. "Come on."

There was no discussion or upset, not until the anonymous letter.

Neither the federal government nor Ohio outlaws employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. Columbus does, though whether it can be applied to religious groups is uncertain. Carla's lawyer, Thomas Tootle, has filed a complaint with the city anyway.

It's been a big story here, with thousands of people publicly expressing support for her. She's moved but mortified. She didn't seek and doesn't enjoy the media attention. "A lot of people want me to be bitter and go after the Catholic Church," she said, adding that others want to cast her as a lesbian heroine.

She just wants her job back, a recognition, she said, "that I'm a moral individual who happens to be gay." □

Chelsea water tower an Underground Nightclub

ALEX VADUKUL

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A trapdoor in the water tower opened when the guests approached. Thumping live music, candlelight, chatter and the sound of clinking glasses emerged, as well as a helping hand.

Inside was a round wooden space no bigger than a freight elevator, filled with about a dozen people sipping whiskey cocktails. Couples sat at five petite tables built into the cedar paneling. A young woman mixed drinks behind a bar. Above people's heads, a two-man band - accordion and upright bass - serenaded from a platform.

But amid the revelry, the staff communicated using headsets, checking that the operation remained unnoticed outside. In the event that the police did arrive, several exit routes were planned. This was life inside the Night Heron, a decidedly illegal nightclub run by a group of adventure-minded artists in a water tower atop a vacant building in Chelsea for eight weekends in March, April and May.

The Night Heron was as exclusive as it was lawless.



Guests make their way toward Night Heron nightclub in New York.

(Benjamin Norman/The New York Times)

The only way to get in was to be handed a pocket watch by a prior guest (who had been instructed to offer minimal explanation), report to a street corner at a certain time, and call a number pasted in-

side the watch. Mysterious helpers led guests through one decrepit building into another and up 12 flights of stairs to the roof. The watches were taken at the door, but guests were given the chance to buy

watches at the end of the night if they wanted to continue the chain of invitation.

The Heron's architect was N.D. Austin, a 31-year-old artist known for what he calls "trespass theater." "It's about making the invisible visible," he said of his philosophy.

Austin located a suitable water tower by scouring Buildings Department records for violations with egregious scaffold fines. That can indicate a neglectful landlord, he said, which meant it might be a vacant building ripe for adopting as one's own.

One Saturday night last month, 12 guests squeezed through the trap door into the space. "The great thing about the upright bass is how it got up here," said Dirby Luongo, one of Austin's collaborators who played the doorman. "It's like a ship in a bottle."

At one table, a first date was in progress. Chelsea Cammarota, 35, explained that she and her date did not know each other well. "He sent me a photo of a

clock," she recounted. "I said, 'I've seen a lot of Law and Order.'" Nevertheless, her date, Steve Showalter, told her, "We're going to do something fun." But he was clueless, too, running on blind faith in the friend who had given him the watch.

Caroline and Michael Ventura, a married couple, arrived for the next seating. There were three per night, each lasting an hour and a half. Ventura said a friend had arrived at his office unannounced to give him the watch. "He placed it on to my desk, looked at me and said, 'I will answer no questions.'" On the way over, Ventura and his wife wondered where the night might lead: Someplace underground? Some sort of sex club?

The night's final seating ended near 3 a.m., culminating with a loud drinking ballad from the band, the sardine-packed audience stomping and yelling along. Tipsy guests exited back through the hole like paratroopers to greet a quiet, blinking skyline. □



The scene inside of Night Heron nightclub in New York. The Night Heron was an invitation-only nightclub held illegally in a water tower atop a vacant building in Chelsea for eight weekends in March, April and May.

(Benjamin Norman/The New York Times)